

The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD.

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

WHAT SHOULD CONGRESS DO?

OF all the important questions with which Congress is expected to deal at the present session, none is considered so imperative as that relating to the revenue of the Treasury. The renewal of gold exports and the growing deficit have caused considerable talk in Republican quarters about the necessity of passing some simple revenue measures calculated to improve the national finances. The larger question of currency reform is also expected to receive the attention of Congress. The leading organ of the Republican Party, the New York *Tribune*, makes suggestion to Congress as follows:

"With this abundant light cast by recent experience Congress can with ease frame a measure to provide for all immediate necessities, to render any sale of bonds unnecessary, to make the currency sound beyond peradventure, and to stimulate industries. For instance, some such measure as the following might be passed:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That on and after January 1, 1896, there shall be levied, collected, and paid upon all articles imported from foreign countries and mentioned in schedules G, J, K, and L of the revenue act approved October 1, 1890, the duties imposed in those schedules; also, upon earthenware, both decorated and plain, the duties named in paragraphs 84 and 85, schedule B, of said act; upon tin plates the duties named in paragraph 121, schedule C, of said act, and upon gloves of all kinds the duties named in paragraphs 343 to 350, inclusive, in schedule N of said act."

"This would be a very short bill, and probably one upon which all Republicans could agree without difficulty or delay, except that many would desire to go much further and to revive or add duties not here touched. But considered only as a temporary measure to meet existing emergencies, it might readily serve with more or less modification as a basis of agreement. It revives first the agricultural schedule of 1890, which embraced more careful duties for the defense of agriculture, especially along the sea-coast and the Northern border, than any previous law had contained, and these duties were found highly important. Next it

revives the schedule relating to flax and hemp and their manufactures, the schedule as to silk goods and the schedule as to wool and woollens, besides the special provisions relating to earthenware, tin plates, and gloves."

The Times (Dem.) thinks it would be unwise and unpatriotic to revive the tariff controversy in any form. The Treasury needs more revenue, it says, and it is the duty of the sober men of both parties to devise a measure which would not be offensive to either. It, in turn, makes another suggestion in this passage:

"The Treasury needs relief from pressure. The Democrats could wisely propose such relief by the funding of the Treasury notes of 1890, leaving the greenbacks undisturbed. The Treasury also needs revenue, not for immediate or probable expenditures, because it has a large cash balance, but to enable it to retain the legal-tender notes, which, if reissued, return to drain its gold. The Republicans could wisely propose revenue from some other source than protective import duties. There are abundant sources of internal revenue.

"These two measures combined would practically do all that is now required, or, at any rate, all that fairly can now be regarded as feasible. They do not involve anything that ought to be contentious. Either one should be, and we believe will be, acceptable to the reasonable men of both parties."

Among other suggestions made in different quarters are the addition of a dollar a barrel to the beer tax, the passage of a bill authorizing a temporary loan by issue of certificates, a popular loan act, etc.

At the caucus of Republican Congressmen on Saturday, ex-Speaker Reed, in his speech accepting the unanimous nomination for Speaker, made some remarks on the question of Republican policy which are generally taken as indicating a moderate program. The most significant passage is as follows:

"We have, unfortunately, a divided Government, which usually leads to small results. But there are times when rest is as health-giving as exercise. We must not forget that our first and greatest duty is to do all we can to restore confidence to business, and that we must avoid all business legislation except in the direction of improving business. Rather than run risks we can afford to wait until well-matured plans give us assurances of permanent benefit. Crude and hasty legislation is above all things to be shunned."

Some Republican papers regret to find in these expressions a note of timidity and a lack of the "old Reed courage," and hope that the Republicans will pursue an aggressive policy. Democratic newspapers, on the other hand, congratulate Congress on the determination of Mr. Reed to keep the session free from partisan action and attempts at radical tariff legislation.

Following are a few more editorial selections dealing with the question of the duty of Congress with respect to the financial situation:

"The Republican organs and orators for the past ten years have been unsparing critics of Democratic administration. They have indicated with much vigor and volubility what they thought should be done, especially to relieve the stress of the financial condition. But it is now broadly hinted that they do not propose to do anything. They prefer the political advantage that might be reaped from continued embarrassment to the business of the country before patriotic considerations. It is to be hoped, however, that less radical and revolutionary ideas may prevail. There will not be the slightest difficulty, if it shall be deemed desirable, in adopting needed legislation for making good the deficit in revenue occasioned by the failure of the income-tax."

This could be done without running counter either to Democratic or Republican policies, with the assurance that such legislation would meet with the assent of the President and the approval of the country. Such service the people have a right to expect at the hands of their representatives."—*The Record (Dem.)*, Philadelphia.

"Congress, shortly after it organizes, ought to find out, if possible, what amount of the Government's obligations overdue remains unpaid. There is a deficiency to be provided for, and a heavy one, as shown by the Treasury figures, but it is generally believed that the actual deficiency is much larger. . . . Congress should press this investigation, and learn the facts before it undertakes to legislate for the relief of the Treasury. The Republican majority should give no handle to the Administration by which to plead the baby act fifteen months from now. It has blamed every blunder it has made upon a previous Republican Administration. The public should now have the actual facts, so that there can be no excuse hereafter for misrepresentation."—*The American (Rep.)*, Baltimore.

"If Congress should again refuse to authorize the issue of a gold bond and insist upon a coin bond, the Government will be compelled to secure the placing of bonds upon the best terms attainable, unless the Administration should submit to prompt tariff revision, whereby the revenue may be increased. The worst of it is that the difficulties of the Treasury will not end there unless Congress devises some means to prevent the raids of the exporters of gold upon the reserve. To keep on replenishing the Treasury by new and continuous issues of bonds will not stop the leak. That will go on interminably under the present system of putting out greenbacks and Treasury notes one day and redeeming them the next, with the process continued indefinitely. Two things are certain: one is that the tariff must be so revised as to furnish sufficient revenue and just protection; and the other is that the Treasury's supply of gold shall be protected from the forays of the foreign bankers. This is the least that the country expects the Executive and Congress to agree to do."—*The Telegraph (Rep.)*, Philadelphia.

"The Republican Congress may easily force another issue of bonds or prevent such an issue by making it unnecessary, but this Congress will not be able to saddle any McKinleyism on the country under the pretext that it must be done to raise revenue. As a revenue-raiser McKinleyism petered out in a two-years' trial. It is a fraud forever. The way to raise what money the Treasury may need is to raise the beer tax to two dollars a barrel and put a 20 per cent. duty on tea and coffee. We would get out of the three nearly a hundred millions a year. But if you try, gentlemen, the scheme of taxing the people's clothing and other necessities you will have registered a multitudinous kick of 10,000 horse-power at the next election against you, and you will

be sent sprawling upon the cold, hard earth."—*The Times (Dem.)*, Chattanooga.

"It is admitted that some legislation is necessary to amplify the revenues, so that the gold redemption fund shall not be used, as it has been by the present Administration, to pay current expenses of the Government. To increase the revenues there must be increase of internal revenue taxation and of tariff duties. If it is not considered desirable to introduce a tariff discussion by the House majority the necessary revenue

should be raised through internal taxation; but a tariff on some specific articles may be necessary even if President Cleveland thinks otherwise. The House can show its readiness to relieve the Government of its embarrassment through revenue deficits, and the Republican Party can go on record as promoting the public interests."—*The Journal (Rep.)*, Minneapolis.

"If there is to be a permanent deficit under existing laws, which is not certain, it may be got rid of by internal taxes. It may also be avoided by revenue duties without any protection in them. This is the way to avoid tariff agitation. If the Republicans begin a bill to increase protection on a few articles, the whole pack of robber barons will be turned loose, and will demand their share of the spoil. In the end, everybody will be let in, and the President will have a McKinley bill to veto."—*The Courier-Journal (Dem.)*, Louisville.

"Some legislation will have to be passed at this session to provide for the reduction in revenue caused by the defeat of the income tax. A tax of one dollar a barrel on beer would be the best resource. A tax on wool or increasing the levy on woolen goods would encounter a veto from the President; but beer is an article that might be taxed so as to increase the revenue very considerably and not even enhance the price of a schooner of the fluid. The currency will be a very difficult matter to handle by any Congressman, however eminent, disposed to play a game of politics in relation to the financial interests of the nation and Government."—*The Transcript (Rep.)*, Boston.

"The National Bank act should be modified in some respects, and the burden of supplying gold to meet foreign demands be shifted from the Treasury to the banks. The present vicious circle of redemption and reissue can not last forever, but will breed a panic and currency collapse sooner or later."—*The Tribune (Rep.)*, Chicago.

"The revenues are so inadequate that something must be done; at least, it is the duty of the President to make a recommendation and of Congress to pass legislation, leaving the responsibility of the signing or vetoing the same to the President. If he wants to flounder along through the remainder of his term on the revenues of the Wilson-Gorman act, he can do it. He is President of the United States, and must bear the burdens incident thereto."—*The Inter Ocean (Rep.)*, Chicago.

The Nicaragua Canal.—A synopsis of the report submitted to the President by the Nicaragua Canal Commission appeared in the New York *Herald* last week, and the findings appear to be unfavorable to the enterprise. The surveys hitherto made are declared to be incomplete and untrustworthy, and the estimate of the cost is said to be far too low. The commission believes that the "keystone of the whole project," the Ochoa "rock-fill" dam, has not yet been demonstrated to be practicable. Many important changes in the plans of the company are recommended, and the conclusion is reached that a more thorough survey is necessary. The commissioners suggest that Congress should appropriate \$350,000 for a commission of competent engineers to make an exhaustive study of the whole scheme. Eighteen months are said to be required for such a study. *The Herald's* summary is generally accepted as accurate, and many are disappointed with the results of the investigation. The editorial comment of *The Herald* is as follows: "Certainly the Government can not lend support to a great undertaking whose engineering practicability, according to the Government's own investigation, has yet to be proved, and whose probable cost can not now be safely estimated. Even the most enthusiastic advocates of an interoceanic waterway must see that these vital problems must be solved before the advisability of constructing the canal can be safely determined or intelligently considered." *The New Orleans Picayune* does not think the report will serve to discourage Congress. It says: "The average citizen will be slow to consider it a condemnation of the Nicaragua Canal route, and now that everybody has become thoroughly convinced that an interoceanic canal under American auspices must be built, even an increased cost will not prevent the energetic pushing of bills before Congress in favor of the early resumption of work on the canal."

THE Cleveland Administration is growing in popularity—in London and Madrid. Reports are not in from Constantinople, Irkutsk, and the Cape of Good Hope.—*Star Sayings*, St. Louis.



BOSSING THE JOB.

G. O. P.—When it comes to finance, Grover, I hold the cards this time, and you might as well recognize that in that little note of yours.
—*The Journal*, Minneapolis.

WHAT CAN THE UNITED STATES DO FOR THE ARMENIANS?

CALLS for some form of intervention by the United States Government are becoming more and more frequent and numerous. Reports of fresh outrages and massacres have aroused the wrath of many public men, and Senator Hoar is believed to have expressed a widespread sentiment in his message to President Cleveland, pledging his "unwavering support" to any measure that may be recommended to Congress "for putting a stop to the massacre of Christians" in the Turkish Empire, even tho the recommendation should extend so far as the treating of the guilty persons "as pirates or common enemies of the human race." The latest news is that a second terrible massacre has occurred at Morach, and that thousands of Christians were killed. An American theological seminary is reported to have been burned, and two students to have been wounded. The Kurds, it is said, are attacking the Christians under the belief that they are carrying out the intentions of the Government.

The new question of interference by the United States raised by Senator Hoar and others is being widely discussed in the press.

The People Favor Vigorous Action.—"Our people are not quibblers. They have a wholesale contempt for the shibboleths of so-called diplomacy. They would like to see the United States take a front place in the forceful protest which Christendom is bound to make against the bloody tyranny of the Turk.

"Only the cowardly and un-American foreign policy of the Cleveland Administration has prevented the power of this great nation from making itself felt on the Bosphorus.

"Minister Terrell has only done the bidding of his master in suppressing news in order to condone the Grand Turk's terrible crimes against modern civilization.

"What a Thanksgiving all Christendom would have if Turkish misgovernment of Christian provinces could be wiped out! And what a thrill of enthusiasm would pass from Maine to California if the cable should tell us later that on this Thanksgiving Day the guns of an American man-of-war had sounded the death-knell of the Ottoman cruelty that makes all Christians shudder! Unluckily that is impossible. Grover Cleveland is still President."—*The Recorder (Rep.)*, New York.

Are We Prepared to Reverse Our Policy?—"This country has never hitherto been a party to 'the Eastern question,' and it may fairly be presumed that our Government will not depart from the policy of wisely holding aloof from Old World quarrels. Our attitude toward Turkey for its ill-treatment of American citizens, or for violation of treaty pledges, should be precisely our attitude toward another power committing the same offenses, going not a step further nor falling back in the slightest degree from the precedents we have established. Senator Hoar's cry for the intervention of the United States on the ground of 'humanity' has a sound that is peculiarly appealing at this time when the whole world is shocked by the atrocities inflicted on the Armenians by Turkish officers acting under the Sultan's orders or with his tacit approval; but the United States, much as it may sympathize, can not take it upon itself to act as the champion of every oppressed race, unless it is prepared to wage constant warfare and to shed the blood of its citizens in quarrels which reason can not call their own. When our citizens are wronged or maltreated by the Turkish Government it is not only the right but the duty of the United States to exact the amplest reparation for their wrongs. It should make no difference that citizens so wronged are naturalized citizens.

"Following such a policy the course of the United States is logical and consistent: whereas were our Government to make itself a party to intervention, or to announce that it would champion humanity as humanity, it would enter upon a troublous way. If it did not prepare to back up this challenge by a show of force it would be ridiculed by the whole world as a braggart who dare not make good menacing words. To follow up a declaration of championship, we should send to the Mediterranean at least a score of vessels with instructions to attack Turkish ports and posts, since military operations in the interior of Armenia are out of the question. But whither would such a demonstration lead us? Not merely against Turkey, but presumably against the

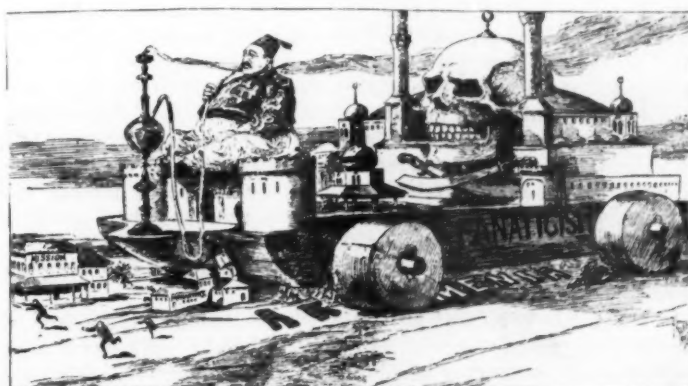
European powers, who would sink their differences out of sight to coalesce against an intruder who proclaimed the absence of diplomatic motive in assailing Turkey in the name of 'humanity.'"
—*The Transcript (Rep.)*, Boston.

Only Two Things We Can Do.—"There are only two things which we can do with effect. One is what Mr. Terrell is doing, to address vigorous remonstrances to the Porte about the safety of our own citizens. These have apparently been effective thus far, but more by good luck than anything else. Threatening the Porte with our navy would be bad policy, because he knows that our navy can not do anything more to him than the combined navies of Europe which are threatening him already. . . . No one has yet suggested the dispatch of our little army, or of the Seventh Regiment, to occupy Armenia and fight the Turks in the snow. When that proposal is made we shall discuss it with the gravity which it merits.

"The other thing we might do, and ought to do, is to send money, provisions, and clothing for the thousands of unhappy people, mainly, in all probability, women and children, who will have to face the terrible winter of Asia Minor without any protection against weather and hunger. If there were more of this going on, we could do with very much less 'voicing' of indignation and less vituperation of the Turk. It is a feasible work and ought to be actively prosecuted. A fighting rôle on the Turkish question is not open to us. The humane rôle is. Jingoism ought to reconcile themselves to the fact that Providence has clearly not intended that we should have a hand in *all* fights, or it would have made all parts of the globe accessible to our navy. The ruffians and oppressors who carry on their atrocities in the interior of large continents are clearly meant to be chastised by other hands than ours, and in the mean time we must all be thankful that we have a President and Secretary of State who are mindful of the national dignity, and do not expose us to the ridicule of mankind by sending forth impotent yelps to the ends of the earth."
—*The Evening Post (Ind.)*, New York.

"There can be no doubt that Senator Hoar's righteous wrath is shared by millions of people. Words can not adequately express the horror of the situation. The whole civilized world stands aghast. The cruelties are frightful in their nature and enormous in their extent. Every hour the cry of Christendom that the nations shall make common cause against the merciless murderers increases in vehemence and in volume. No doubt it is difficult to know just what to do, but the feeling that something must and shall be done is one which is sure to find imperious expression in Washington pretty soon, as it is finding it already in London, Paris, Vienna, St. Petersburg, and every other Christian capital."—*The Advertiser (Rep.)*, Boston.

"On contemplating the fearful results which attend the maintenance of the balance of power in Europe, civilization must stand aghast. The terrible deeds that must be tolerated for policy's sake by a Christian people stamp the whole institution as an outrage so great that it is a wonder that Providence will permit it. In complications that demand such sacrifices of a national conscience, the free people of the United States would have no part. To combine with royal murderers is not the duty of a free nation. The wisdom of the Monroe doctrine has received no more striking illustration than from the events of the past few months. The Monroe doctrine essentially implies a policy of no interference in foreign affairs, no entanglements with European nations which



STILL USES THE JUGGERNAUT.

—*Times-Herald*, Chicago.

would lead to putting the United States in the shameful position of England at present."—*The Times (Dem.)*, Kansas City.

"A genuine American [President] would have something to say about the perils of American missionaries in Turkey, and if distrust or fear of each other render European powers unwilling to take the first independent and uncompromising step for maintenance of the rights of civilization, even in the dominions of the 'unspeakable Turk,' who ought to have been tumbled out of Europe many years ago, this nation might at least defend its own citizens as promptly as it did when the United States really had no naval power, more than thirty years ago, and was not known, even to itself, as a great power in warfare on land."—*The Tribune (Rep.)*, New York.

A EUROPEAN ECONOMIST ON AMERICA'S FINANCIAL SITUATION.

THE leading French economist to-day is M. Paul Leroy-Beaulieu, whose influence is recognized throughout Europe. As professor, author, and, above all, editor of "*L'Economiste Français*," he occupies a commanding position in the economic world. His view of the present financial situation in America and of the most feasible solution of our difficulties is likely to attract wide attention. He contributes to *The Forum* (December) an article on the "Conditions for American Commercial and Financial Supremacy," wherein he submits observations on two points—the issues of paper money by the Government and the question of silver or bimetallism. At the close of an elaborate review of the situation, he states his conclusion to be that "the two necessary conditions on which the United States can secure a financial position as important as that they now hold in agriculture and in industry," and hope to "approach and equal Great Britain as a financial power," are, first, the abandonment of all paper money issued by the state, and, second, the definitive adoption of gold as the sole standard. Our "frequent and severe crises," which obstruct our development in so many directions, M. Leroy-Beaulieu attributes wholly to our failure to observe these two conditions.

The article opens with a few general observations concerning the unfitness of Government to maintain paper money in circulation, even if the paper is redeemable in specie. Paper currency, says the writer, must not be rigid and uniform, but elastic, and government officials have neither the personal nor material means to keep such a currency flexible, only business men, with special training and experience, being equal to such a task. Coming to the difficulty of maintaining a gold reserve, M. Leroy-Beaulieu says:

"The inconvenience of state regulation of fiduciary currency is most striking in connection with the maintenance of the specie reserve. This reserve is absolutely indispensable to any country if it is desired that transactions shall have a solid basis, and contracts for a term of some years shall be possible. In most countries the banks, either public or private, maintain the specie reserve. Obligated to pay their notes in specie on demand, it is their permanent interest that the specie reserve shall not be exhausted. Moreover, they have very effectual means for protecting it. Gold may be required for export to settle debts that have either a commercial or financial source, resulting in the latter case from either public or private loans. Gold must always be furnished for export, otherwise business with other countries will be restricted and at times rendered impossible, and the credit of the country will be impaired. But when gold exports become too extensive, and particularly when they seem caused by a speculative movement, and threaten the metallic reserve of the country, the banks have an excellent means of obviating and removing the evil—an advance in the rate of discount.

"There has been and still is much discussion of the means of protecting specie reserves. In reality there is only one way in which good results may be obtained in this direction. To raise the rate from $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 3 per cent. to 4, 5, or even 6 per cent. (in former times it has touched 10 per cent. in England) is the only

rapid and adequate way to protect the specie reserve and prevent excessive exports of gold. . . .

"Thus whenever the banks, public or private, are charged with the protection of the metallic reserve of the country, they accomplish it with certainty by this sovereign method of raising the money rate. In a normal condition of international financial relations, this advance may be moderate, and the country experiences only slight detriment, a light and momentary embarrassment, not to be compared to the shock and the discredit resulting from an outgo of gold the end of which can not be calculated. On the contrary, when the state issues the fiduciary currency, as in the United States, it has no real means of protecting the metallic reserve. It is under obligation to pay gold to all who demand it, without any power to regulate or reduce the demand. It is absolutely disarmed. Its sole resource is to secure specie by loans abroad. But as these loans have no effect on the general current of business, their proceeds are soon exhausted, and they must be renewed. This incapacity to protect its reserve is the chief reason why a state is not fitted to issue fiduciary money."

With respect to silver, M. Leroy-Beaulieu says that Europe is unable to understand the hesitation of this country to reduce it to the rank of subsidiary coin. England's supremacy has been largely due to her gold standard, he says, and continues:

"If the United States are to attain a commercial, and still more a financial position, equal to that of England, the dollar must be given the qualities of the pound sterling; that is, there must be no sort of doubt that it is a gold dollar, and that never for any reason or under any pretext that which is called a dollar shall be paid in silver. Then all nations will have the same faith in the dollar that they have in the pound sterling. As the United States have a territory infinitely more vast than that of England, a territory full of the most varied resources and in which capital can find great opportunities of profit, that country will become the chosen land for the capital of the whole world. The old nations, with narrow territory already almost completely in use, such as (besides Great Britain) France, Belgium, Switzerland, and recently Germany—all these strenuous producers of savings that they no longer know how to employ will direct their overflowing capital toward the United States. All that is lacking is a completely solid monetary system to enable the American people to profit by a large part of the capital accumulated in such enormous quantities by the old nations of Europe."

Not a single European country, says M. Leroy-Beaulieu, attaches the slightest importance to bimetallism, and the talk about an international agreement is perfectly gratuitous. With regard to the alleged scarcity of gold, he says:

"The increase in the production of gold since 1888, and especially since 1893, and the probability of a still greater increase within the next ten years, must blast the hopes of the bimetallists. If the production of one metal only—the one most convenient for use as money, most sought in the arts, the only one at present employed in international payments—shall amply suffice for all the needs of the civilized world, why should there be joined with it a less convenient metal, more despised in the arts, and to the use of which modern custom is opposed? The bimetallic movement must be regarded as bound to collapse and vanish."

The article concludes with the following advice to America:

"In these conditions there is but one course worthy of a great nation like the United States. It is not to persist in trying to 'rehabilitate' silver; it is definitely to recognize the preeminence of gold and to make of this metal the sole keystone of the American monetary system. Silver will never be anything but subsidiary money for the Western nations. The United States Treasury will, without doubt, lose a part of the sums it has so imprudently sunk in the purchase of silver. But this loss is unimportant for so rich and progressive a people; it is of no consequence compared with the solidity the gold standard will give to the American monetary system and to American credit.

"So soon as the capitalists, small and great, of Europe, shall know that the United States have definitely adopted the gold standard and relegated silver to a subordinate monetary rôle, the savings of Western Europe will flow toward that country. Freed from the fear that he may some day be repaid in depreciated money, every person with savings in all Europe will be happy to

find a return of $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 per cent. in good American securities, and of 5 to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in the shares of well-established American enterprises. Then the immense territory of the United States will find its vast resources rapidly and completely put in the way of exploitation."

LESSONS OF THE FOOTBALL SEASON.

INTERCOLLEGIATE football this year seems to have been free from the features which led, in previous seasons, to indignant denunciations of the "brutality" of the game and to demands for the total suppression of intercollegiate contests. There were no surprises in the results of the games played; throughout nothing but the expected has happened. The final game was played last week between Cornell and Pennsylvania, and the latter won by an overwhelming score. The *Philadelphia Telegraph* comments as follows on these annual contests:

"The philosopher and the writer of song or romance could not visit a scene which is fuller of inspiration and suggestion. To see 15,000 or 20,000 people, men and women alike, on the occasion of a brilliant play rising simultaneously from their places, waving their flags and ribbons in the air and shouting their enthusiasm and apparent joy, is a sight to thrill the most serious man. This is a scene which is distinctly American, and if the people of Europe could be transplanted from continent to continent for a few hours, and could witness one of these great games, they would be treated to a sight to fill them with positive bewilderment."

The Boston *Transcript* congratulates the friends of football upon the results of "a season which many have felt to be one of trial" as to whether excesses can be rooted out, and reviews the situation as follows:

"In the games between the greater colleges there has been but one instance of disqualification for 'slugging,' a record made with umpires who have been chosen because of their impartiality and strictness in enforcing every penalty under the rules and who have been alert in the discharge of those onerous duties. Of covert meanness and obvious attempts to disable there have been several instances which have been seen from the side lines but which have escaped detection. Considering the multiplicity of opportunities these have been of the rarest. It has come to be recognized among the players themselves that such underhandedness must be held by each individual as his veriest secret. If known among fellow players, censure will meet it and it will not be tolerated. It may be of special interest in this neighborhood to say that the closest observation has failed to detect a single instance in which a Harvard player has done one of these meaner things.

"The amended rules have modified the game somewhat. Punting is almost constant and the game more open. Defensive tactics have been more systematized. Injuries of any moment have been wanting. The games have been fought out in the fullest, fairest, and most sportsmanlike spirit, which in itself must be beneficial. The other benefits of the game, the careful training, the care in every detail of play, the courage, the perseverance, the quick judgment in measuring opponents, and in seizing and making opportunities, the prolonged determined struggles in the face of every odds in order to 'play the game,' are too well recognized to need comment. It is to this extreme carefulness in every detail of play, the pluck with which she meets the unexpected, and the calm determination with which she has fought for all that was in her, that Yale is indebted for her many victorious seasons. Hero worship, which sometimes accompanies the victors, is not always wise, but the qualities which the game develops and from which its chief value comes will wisely minimize what of this is fulsome.

"Progress has marked the game of this season. It has been clearly proved that what was needed was an intelligent public opinion which would not countenance brutal tactics and excesses. For the excesses of preceding seasons the public is to blame by its quiescence or its failure in wise criticism. The future of the game is in the hands of that same public opinion."

If the Sultan reads the newspapers he will discover that his word of honor does not circulate at its face value.—*The Sentinel, Milwaukee.*

STARTLING JUVENILE CRIMES.

A STRANGE feature of the criminal record of the past week or two is the youth of many of those accused of atrocious and revolting deeds. Young boys have figured as murderers, burglars, forgers, and thieves. In New York a fourteen-year-old boy named Beresheim is under arrest on the charge of having murdered a man named Krauer, and the Gerry Society is said to be convinced of his guilt. Two students of Union College, charged with burglary, have confessed, that they had begun as amateur vandals and gradually developed into professional thieves and robbers. But the case which has created the greatest sensation is that of the four boys who recently wrecked a fast mail train near Rome, in this State, causing the death of two men and severe injuries to a number of others. The object of the crime seems to have been plunder, and there is said to be evidence of great care and skill in the planning of the crime. The leader is a boy of eighteen named Hildreth, a son of a New York lawyer, and his associates are Bristol, aged eighteen, Plate, aged seventeen, and Hibbard, aged nineteen. After their arrest, detectives found a number of sensational stories in their rooms, including a life of Jesse James, and the general impression is that their crime was due to the effects of detective novels and "penny dreadfuls." The newspapers, in commenting on this extraordinary number of juvenile crimes, discuss the means of preventing the circulation of such literature among the young. We reproduce some interesting selections:

The Boys Lived in a False World.—"Theirs is not a case which calls for any exercise of clemency, for they are not children, nor did they act on impulse in committing their crime. They have all reached the age of responsibility for their deeds, the youngest being over eighteen, and all are possessed of at least average intelligence. One or two have had unusually good advantages, and they planned the train-wrecking deliberately, and proposed to rob the injured and dead victims with all the cold-blooded calculation of hardened criminals. It is charitable to think that they did not realize what they were doing, and had no definite prevision of the horror and cruelty of their intended deed—with its ghastly corpses and the bruised and wounded men to be taken from the wreck. Had some mental process put before either of them, even the most hardened, a picture of the dead engineer as he lay crushed under his engine, from which he refused to jump, there would have been no train-wrecking by that party.

"How to explain their crime is not so easy without knowing more of the ancestry and environment than the dispatches have given. . . .

"Vile literature plays its part in this ruin of young lives, as was to have been expected. Flamboyant exploitation of the deeds of famous criminals, and exciting if not eulogistic descriptions of exploits of train-robbers, thieves, and murderers of the Jesse James type are said to have been eagerly and frequently read by these youthful train-wreckers. In Hildreth's room, which was a sort of headquarters for the gang, sharing that honor with the canal-boat saloon, were found numerous examples of this sort of literature, and in the pocket of one of the gang, when arrested, was a biography of Jesse James. Worse literature than this is said to have also been found in the possession of these boys, and the evidence is complete that the work of demoralization and training for their crime was completed if not begun by this sort of reading. The case seems to be not only one of exemplified viciousness, the origin of which is not plainly traced, but another example of the working of a diseased and distorted imagination operative on weak characters and on natures without moral foundations. These boys lived in a false world, with false conceptions of heroism, false ideals, and false notions of enjoyment and happiness, and they must awaken from their degrading dreams, if they ever do, in prison. Their condition differs only in degree from that of hundreds of others, and the authors and publishers of the kind of literature with which they fed their imaginations can not escape responsibility for their crime and its consequences."—*The Republican, Springfield.*

Responsibility of Sensational Writers.—"They have sought to make heroic the most cowardly of criminals, for there can be

no more cowardly crime than that of wrecking a railroad train. A few years ago the boys, who, chafed under the restraints of home discipline, wanted to go out to fight Indians. Later they were taken with the romance of the cowboy's life, but as both these romances have disappeared the sensational writers have found nothing better to glorify than the deeds of cowardly criminals who placed obstructions upon railroads and then robbed the dead and wounded.

"This is a wonderful degeneration in the wild hero. In war there has never been found a worse example of the sneaking, cowardly outcast than the camp follower who skulked between the lines and roamed over the battle-field to rob the dead and wounded. But in our modern yellow-back literature such cowards are made over into heroes to tempt restless and perhaps thoughtless boys to follow lines of crime."—*The Inter Ocean, Chicago*.

Of a Piece with the Jingo Craze for Foreign Adventure.—

"The boy train-wreckers near Rome, N. Y., had this in common with the student burglars at Union College, that they found life flat and dull and felt justified in resorting to crime to enliven it. The students distinctly say that they set out on their career of robbery 'for fun.' . . . If excitement is the main end of life, we do not see how they can be blamed; and that it is, they have many teachers to tell them. At bottom, the jingo craze for foreign adventure and war is all of a piece with the desire of fiction-fed boys for a glorious career of crime. . . .

"How far a semi-criminal literature is responsible for the production of boy-criminals, is a nice question. That it pushes many an ill-balanced mind into crime is undoubted, but we still have to ask what makes the mind ill-balanced, and whether the latent tendency to crime might not have been awakened by some other means, if not by a prurient or sensational literature. The case is like the inquiry whether detailed accounts in the press of extraordinary suicides do not directly cause other suicides. There is some evidence that they do, but it has been recently pointed out that, in Switzerland, where the number of suicides is proportionately greater than in any other country of Europe, the press is very little sensational and makes no display of the attractive horrors of suicide. However the question be decided, it is plain that government, when most paternal, can not suppress the literary glorification of crime. Efforts have been made again and again in England to stamp out the 'penny dreadfuls,' but one Home Secretary after another has had to confess that it passed the wit of lawyers to draw a bill which would discriminate between, say, Stevenson's 'Kidnaped' and the 'bluggiest' White-chapel hair-raiser."—*The Evening Post, New York*.

The Duty of Sunday-School Teachers.—"We believe that but a very small part of those who teach the young either for their mental or spiritual benefit, have any adequate conception of the harm done by the pernicious class of literature to which we have referred. Its sale is something enormous, and boys are its chief patrons. They conceal themselves at home and read it. They read it while delivering papers, carrying messages, doing errands, running elevators, going to and from school—wherever and whenever an opportunity can be made. Ninety per cent. of the juvenile criminals are lovers of the cheap trash, and the evil is growing in a way to alarm the better elements of society. It is the duty of the Sunday-school teacher not only to teach the observance of what is good, but the avoidance of what is wrong, and should the powerful auxiliary of the church direct its energies against the evil of corrupting literature, the work of harvesting the souls of the young would be wonderfully promoted."—*The Free Press, Detroit*.

"To every one who has the care of a growing boy or girl, the moral comes with special emphasis. The boy or girl who reads bad books does so usually because he or she has no interesting and attractive good books to read. At this day, when almost every publishing-house issues at holiday time large numbers of the best class of books for boys and girls, it is more than a pity when the sons of well-to-do citizens go to the lives of vicious, brutal criminals for their instruction and amusement."—*The Advertiser, Boston*.

"I SUPPOSE you are a socialist, or anarchist, or something?" asked the lady of vague ideas.

"Madam," replied Mr. Brokedown Baldwin. "I am a passive altruist."

"What in the name of common sense is that?"

"I believe in being helped all I can."—*The Journal, Indianapolis*.

THE GREAT RAILROAD POOL.

ONE of the most powerful railroad organizations ever perfected in this country came into existence as a result of the unanimous adoption, by the trunk-line presidents, of the plan for the regulation of rates and traffic which has long been under discussion. According to *The Railroad World*, Philadelphia, the purposes of the agreement are: "To aid in fulfilling the purposes of the Interstate-Commerce Act; to cooperate with each other and adjacent transportation associations; to establish and maintain reasonable and just rates, fares, rules, and regulations on State and interstate traffic; to prevent unjust discrimination, and to secure the reduction and concentration of agencies, and the introduction of economies in the conduct of the freight and passenger service." The articles have to be ratified by the boards of directors of the nine trunk lines involved, and the plan is expected to go into force on January 1, 1896. There are provisions imposing a penalty for infractions of the agreement, and the intention is to enforce it as an express and direct contract. The question widely discussed in connection with this pooling arrangement is whether it does not violate the Interstate-Commerce Law. A number of newspapers believe that it does, and are vigorously denouncing it as a gigantic conspiracy against the people. Senator W. E. Chandler takes the same view, and has written another letter to President Cleveland calling his attention to the agreement, and demanding that he shall "stop it" by an "earnest word" to Mr. J. P. Morgan, who is one of the chief parties to the transaction.

We append a number of comments from different points of view:

Legal and Beneficial.—"The effect of such an agreement as briefly outlined can not now be fully appreciated. It means the maintenance of rates and the abolition of unjust discrimination, and if these can be fully carried out the benefit, alike to the public and the corporations themselves, is incalculable. The railroads have annually lost millions of dollars in rate wars, and further large sums have been lost through discrimination; and the general public has benefited but little in either case. Under the plan, the small shipper will be on a par with the large shipper; one rate will be given to all, which will thus largely eliminate the railroads as a factor in the competition between business men in the same locality. It is not to be supposed that such a gigantic scheme as this will not meet with great opposition, especially by those who have heretofore enjoyed the benefit of a discriminating rate, and by people who pose as the dear public's friend, like Senator Chandler, for example. But it is probably safe to say that the provisions of the agreement have been kept well within the 'intent and purposes' of the Interstate-Commerce Law and all other laws having any bearing upon the railroads. Never before has there been such an overhauling of Federal and State laws applying to railroads. Such being the case, there is no reasonable ground for doubting the legality of the new agreement, nor should there be any doubt as to the sincerity of those who have agreed to enforce its provisions."—*The Railroad World, Philadelphia*.

Why Don't They Simply Obey the Law?—"The new railroad trust is the largest conspiracy of the kind ever formed. It is also the one most dangerous to the popular welfare. It combines enterprises representing three billions of dollars' capital. It places in the hands of nine irresponsible men the absolute control of the railroad business of the continent.

"It confers upon these men the right and the power to determine absolutely at what rate freight and passengers shall be transported from one point to another, without any check from competition or any relief from reason.

"These nine men are empowered to say arbitrarily what the cotton, wheat, and corn crops of the country shall be taxed as the condition of reaching a market. They are empowered to decide what tribute shall be levied upon the dry-goods, the clothing, the hats, shoes, clocks, groceries, agricultural implements, and everything else used by the people in their passage from maker to consumer.

"There could be nothing more dangerous than this in the way

of a trust. There could be nothing more flagrantly violative of law. The statutes against it are specific, and without reference to the statutes our highest courts have held such combinations to be criminal at common law.

"The excuse just now urged is that the agreement is necessary to protect the small shipper against unjust discriminations in favor of the large shipper. But the small shipper is protected already. The law makes discrimination against him a penal offense.

"If the railroad magnates are really anxious to protect him they have only to obey the law. Their contention is in substance that they are such incorrigible lawbreakers that they must resort to the greater crime of conspiracy in order to prevent themselves from committing the smaller one of unjust discrimination."—*The World, New York*.

Not a Trust Because Subject to the Commission.—"Senator Chandler evidently does not see the merits of the agreement. Not only would it lift many railroads from the hands of receivers, save many others from a similar impending fate, earn money for the stockholders of railroads, and in time of its own accord force a uniform reduction of rates and fares, but the shippers, the greatest present sufferers, would be benefited.

"The competition between railroads is so keen that all the large systems endeavor to stimulate traffic by fostering enterprises along the lines. When it shall have been demonstrated that railroads, by charging certain fixed rates to all shippers, can earn fixed charges and a reasonable interest for the stockholders and shall then have a surplus left, the time will have arrived for a reduction of rates sufficient to equalize the surplus.

"The railroads are the great factors of the commerce of this vast country. In the building up of one man's business at the expense of tearing down another's they are not stimulating that commerce, and it was the realization of this by the presidents, as well as the desire to earn something for the stockholders, that prompted the successful drafting and approval of the agreement which Mr. Chandler seeks to have torn to pieces, or if the parties to the contract sign it to have them proceeded against.

"It may be, as Mr. Chandler asserts, that the agreement is only a step toward securing legal authority for pooling of traffic, but it is hard to see wherein it becomes a trust, since it is only for the enforcement of the rates of tariff and fares approved by the Interstate-Commerce Commission. Mr. Chandler is a lawyer, but were he an iron-master, and had he to meet the prices of a competitor who was given a secret rebate on every ton of pig he received or every ton of manufactured product shipped, his wail would be in a different key."—*The Courier-Journal, Louisville*.

A Useful Plan, but Forbidden by Law.—"There is practically no difference of opinion on the advisability of pooling railroad rates, if the law should allow such a course. The difficulty at present is that the law expressly forbids such arrangements, and there is a strong sentiment among business men that if any change at all is made in the Interstate-Commerce Law, the provision against pooling should be stricken out, inasmuch as that provision is to some extent an incentive to such unnecessary competition between the railroads as would usually lead in the end to a rate-war.

"The experience of this country in the past five years has been so costly that the sentiment against rate-wars is now almost unanimous. So many good-paying properties have been plunged into insolvency by unnecessary and unjustifiable rate wars, that the tendency in the next few years will almost undoubtedly be in favor of allowing the roads to make some agreement which, without imposing any injustice upon shippers or consumers, will at least give the roads a fair rate of profit."—*The Advertiser, Boston*.

Congress Should be Heard From.—"The acts of Congress—the will of the people expressed through their representatives—are utterly and most contemptuously ignored by these railroad lords, who propose to operate the great transportation lines in the interests of the officers and stockholders, to the detriment of the interests of the traveling and trafficking public.

"The audacity of these monopoly lovers and promoters should be rebuked, and, perhaps, will be. That they do not feel absolutely secure in their move to keep rates up and crush competition is manifest from the fact that the gigantic pooling arrangement does not go into effect until Congress shall have been in session one month. It is to be hoped, however, that they will hear from

Congress in a way that will effectually check their high-handed proceedings.

"It will be fortunate for the monopolists if their joint traffic conspiracy does not result in a measure looking to the absolute ownership of railroads, particularly the trunk lines, by the National Government."—*The Pilot, Norfolk*.

Speaker Reed's Service to the Republic.—Theodore Roosevelt reviews the record of Thomas B. Reed as Speaker of the House of Representatives in the current issue of *The Forum*. The title of the Fifty-first Congress to a definite place in American history, according to him, rests chiefly on the new rules in regard to dilatory motions and quorum-counting enforced by Mr. Reed. Mr. Roosevelt recalls the bitter and widespread opposition to these rules on the part of the Democratic and Independent newspapers, and their subsequent vindication by the Supreme Court and a Democratic Congress. We quote as follows from the article:

"The Reed rules represented the mere application of common sense, courage, and honesty to parliamentary procedure. So evident did this become that his very opponents while still in power were themselves forced to adopt his rules, and the people, by an overwhelming majority, undid the wrong they had done and replaced him as Speaker; only in a position far more secure and far more triumphant than when he had first held the chair, for he had back of him an enormously increased majority. There have been times when a statesman has triumphed after defeat because he himself has changed; but in this case it is not Reed who has changed—it is the popular feeling. His position remains unaltered. He consistently maintained the righteousness and justice of his proceedings, and his bitter political enemies were forced by the hard logic of events to acknowledge that they had been wrong and that he had been right. Rarely in the history of American politics has any statesman received so dramatically complete a vindication.

"Speaker Reed rendered a great service to his party by his action as Speaker of the Fifty-first Congress; and, by the fact of having rendered this service, placed himself at one leap among the foremost of the party leaders; but he rendered an even greater service to the American Republic. In order that a republic may exist there must be some form of representative government, and this representative government must include a legislature. If the practices to which Mr. Reed put a stop were allowed to become chronic, representative government would itself be an impossibility. Not for many years has there been a man in our public life to whom the American people owe as great a debt as they do to Speaker Thomas B. Reed."

A Law Against Protracted Campaigns.—Following the initiative of the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce in advocating a short campaign, the Providence (Rhode Island) Board of Trade has adopted a memorial to Congress asking that a Federal law shall be passed fixing the dates of national conventions, or providing that they shall not exceed three months previous to Presidential elections. The *Chicago Chronicle*, one of the few large papers which oppose the movement for shorter campaigns, vigorously attacks this proposal as an attempt to infringe upon political rights. It says: "There would be as much sense in a law declaring that no man shall form his political opinions except within three months of a Presidential election as there would be in a law declaring that the candidate that he is to support shall be nominated within three months of the day when the popular vote is to be cast. A citizen has as much right to plenty of time for making up his mind as to the ticket that he will vote as he has to plenty of time for making up his mind as to what principles and plans of administrative policy he likes best. The Constitution gives Congress no power to fix the time when national conventions shall be held for the nomination of candidates and the adoption of platforms. . . . The methods by which political parties shall manage their affairs in honest ways is not a proper subject of legislation. It is within the domain of personal liberty, which neither Congress nor any State has a right to invade. The fair, voluntary action of individuals and of political parties as to the time, manner, and method of discharging political duties and exercising political rights is not a proper subject of police surveillance under either Federal or local laws."

A "FLOOD OF GOLD" AND ITS EFFECT.

WILL nature come to our aid in the attempt to solve the money question, so perplexing to economists and statesmen? According to several independent forecasts, an enormous increase in the world's supply of gold is in sight, and this is believed by some to involve a rise in the price of silver, a general industrial revival, and the automatic establishment of a "natural bimetalism." An English financier, writing in the *London Bankers' Magazine*, speaks of the development of new fields in South Africa and elsewhere, and predicts such a glut of gold as will necessitate the suspension of free coinage and the limitation of the legal-tender quality of gold. Mr. Preston, the director of the United States Mint, also refers, in his last report, to the impending increase in the gold output and draws some very optimistic conclusions. In an interview, he is reported to have said:

"When you have an increase in the production of gold you will surely have an increase in the money of the world. Gold is the same as money the world over, for you may take a gold dollar and put it into the furnace and melt it down, and still it will retain its value, unaided by any other security. The more gold produced, the more money we will have in circulation. . . . When there is an abundance of money in circulation prosperity prevails. The more money we have the more we spend. That is the common practise as it applies to the average person throughout the world. If the United States has an increase in the production of gold, the result will be that there will be an increase in the volume of investments. The more gold we have the more valuable become our securities, and foreign investors will not be slow in seeking investments for their capital. The same conditions apply to the world at large, so that I sincerely believe that we are about to experience a 'flood of gold' that will improve business and help to solve the financial problem."

Those who do not accept the "quantity theory" of money criticize these hopeful views as extravagant, and declare that the increase in the gold output will but slightly stimulate business. There are some writers who predict great disaster and commercial disturbance from the anticipated glut of gold. We append comments giving expression to these different views:

We May See Silver at a Premium.—"Gold having appreciated relatively to silver because of the greater production of the white metal, there were two ways in which our silver dollar might be made equal in commercial value to our gold dollar without altering either. The first was a decrease in the production of silver; the second an increase in the production of gold.

"The second way was believed to be impossible, owing to the theory that not much more gold could be got out of the earth. So pessimists persisted in declaring that the silver dollar must either be wiped out of existence or made to contain more silver. They thought their logic was inevitable."

"But Nature laughs at human logic. To-day there is a prospect of such immense additions to the world's visible supply of gold that, barring out all prospect of legislation by our national Congress, within the next twenty years we may see the silver dollar at a premium. In that case it would be amusing to note the anxiety the creditor classes over the world would show to maintain the silver standard. Like Guinevere, they 'needs must love the highest when they see it.' Perhaps enlightened selfishness is, after all, the most effective factor in human progress."—*The Recorder, New York.*

Bright Prospect for Bimetalism.—"The whole tendency in the discovery and increased output of the precious metals is in the direction of gold. At the time silver was so generally demonetized its production seemed to be almost illimitable, while the gold mines were showing signs of contraction. Great deposits were known to exist, which defied the science and skill of mining enterprise. But now all has changed. There is no silver bonanza, but gold mines have come to the front by the side of which relays of bonanzas would seem cheap and poor. The money kings are being beaten at their own game by their own metal. . . .

"The world's money is about half silver and half gold. The attempt, now partly accomplished, to throw out one half the

money of the world could not fail, Mr. Preston himself being judge, to cause hard times. The most bigoted goldite can see the logic of contraction and expansion, except when his pet theory of finance is at stake.

"Fortunately the United States is rich in both money metals. The output of gold this year is sure to be much larger than the output of last year, and by the close of the century it is likely to be not far from as great as that of the British Empire is to-day.

"In proportion as the prospect of a corner in gold becomes remote the prospect of a return to bimetalism brightens. Events are shaping themselves in the direction of a return to the full and fair use of both money metals."—*The Inter Ocean, Chicago.*

Gold in No Immediate Danger.—"There is no doubt that the largely increased gold production, which now exceeds all previous records in the world's history, is exerting a powerful influence on business. Whether the flood of gold will operate to increase prices through an actual depreciation in the worth of the metal itself is a question that is receiving no little attention, and some rather plausible statistics have been published to show how the world's stock of gold will be augmented until a point is reached where the present ruling price can no longer be maintained. This, however, is mere conjecture, and no accurate computations are possible in estimating to what extent prices will be affected by the increased output of gold. The standard of value at present maintained throughout the world will not change for years to come. . . .

"The immediate future of the gold-mining industry in the United States seems unusually bright. That means also that the sections interested in gold production will prosper and the whole country will indirectly feel the effect of this activity."—*The Financier, New York.*

A Simple Transition to Bimetalism.—"The desideratum of a money supply which increases with the increase of business demands will be more or less nearly achieved before any international agreement on coinage is reached. If it happens that the stimulated gold production is sufficient to bring the two metals anywhere near together commercially at the old Latin Union ratio of $15\frac{1}{2}$ to 1, the transition to bimetallic coinage will be simple; and the producing classes may hope that all the nations will be wise enough to seize the opportunity—will secure a money supply which for all future time will be equal to the enlarging wants of the people."—*The Republic, St. Louis.*

A Novel Situation Fraught with Grave Possibilities.—"In a current report issued by the United States Treasury it is shown that the value of the total gold coinage of our mints from the beginning has been three times greater than the value of the silver coinage. It is further shown that the proportion of the total gold product used for coinage is about two thirds, while the proportion of the total silver product used in the same way is less than one third. These figures will doubtless be used by the silverites to substantiate their favorite theory that it is impossible to make gold the sole monetary standard for the commercial world, as the total product of the mines of the world will not furnish a sufficient supply for this purpose. *Per contra*, attention is attracted by a remarkable article in the *London Bankers' Magazine* on the dangers to the financial systems of the commercial world involved in the coming flood of gold, which threatens to extend beyond all limits heretofore regarded as within the range of the possible. The annual output of the gold mines of the world is now far beyond any previous record; but, great as it is at present, it still goes on increasing and threatens to increase even more rapidly in the immediate future. A careful review of all the facts bearing on gold production leads to the conclusion that there is no imaginable limit to the future output of this precious metal. The golden stream has but started to flow in, and the full force of its rising tide is yet to be realized. The demands of the commercial nations adopting the gold standard have so stimulated production in every part of the world that the paying mines are becoming more and more numerous and more prolific every day. . . .

"Never before in the history of the world has there been anything like such a gold product presented for consideration. The first thought with regard to such an overwhelming accumulation is that we shall not know what to do with it, how to use it, and how to make it available as a monetary standard without breaking down existing values. The financial world has no experience that would be of use under these novel circumstances. No existing monetary system ever contemplated such an embarrassment

of riches, being founded on the opposite assumption that gold is necessarily and always must be a scarce commodity. What new and unlooked-for effects may proceed from such an unexpected turn of affairs no financial wisdom can now predict. Gold has played so large a part in the operations of modern commerce that the entire output has always been absorbed without exciting attention, except as to possible scarcity. Should a point be reached when neither its monetary nor its industrial uses would afford an outlet for the current supply, the novel situation might be such as to cause serious disturbances."—*The Telegraph, Philadelphia.*

Roman Catholicism and the W. C. T. U.—A lively controversy has sprung up in the Women's Christian Temperance Union on the subject of the proper attitude of the organization toward Roman Catholicism. The resolution passed by the recent convention, at the instance of Miss Willard, favoring affiliation with Roman Catholic and Jewish women, called forth a vigorous protest from the Boston branch of the W. C. T. U. It is addressed to Miss Willard and reads in part as follows:

"While we recognize the breadth and wisdom of fraternizing with all whom may honestly desire to abolish the saloon, and do away with the drink traffic, yet we view with alarm the inroads which Romanists are making in our ranks, preventing freedom of speech and action, and we believe that great care should be taken lest they do serious undermining work. . . .

"We beg you in your investigation, which covers so wide a scope, to investigate the doings of the Jesuits especially at Washington. After thorough candid investigation, we believe you will be convinced that our action as a national body must be exceedingly guarded toward this most dangerous class in our community."

Miss Willard, in an elaborate reply, meets the points raised in the protest and winds up with this passage:

"Let it be remembered that the Women's Christian Temperance Union is not a church. It is a temperance union. It has no creed, but it has a declaration of principles. It stands for 'total abstinence, total prohibition, and a white life for two,' and among its rally-cries are these: 'No sectarianism in religion, no sectionalism in politics, no sex in citizenship.' Its motto is, 'For God and home and native land,' and it proclaims not only in this but every nation that only the gospel of the golden rule of Christ can bring the gladness of the 'golden age of man.' If Catholic or Protestant, Jew or Gentile will come to us as fraternal message-bearers, or as working-allies upon this sacred platform, let us not only clasp their friendly hands, but go more than half-way to welcome them to the broad outlook and blessed fellowship of a union that has the home for its watchword and the happiness of all for its heaven-appointed goal."

The press generally sympathizes with Miss Willard and condemns the action of the Boston branch as bigoted and unchristian. The *Springfield Republican* says: "It may be observed that if women desire to prove their political wisdom, in anticipation of the extension of suffrage to them, they will do well to follow Frances E. Willard rather than the other party. What they should have done was to expunge this protest from their records, or place thereon an ample apology."

Strikes from Labor's Point of View.—The statistics relating to strikes and lockouts recently published by Col. Carroll D. Wright were widely discussed in the press (*THE LITERARY DIGEST*, November 2), and the general deduction drawn from them was that strikes are unprofitable as a rule and ought not to be resorted to. The trades-union organs dispute this deduction as misleading. Thus *The Garment Worker*, New York, says: "The number of strikes that are won or compromised can be determined accurately, and also the number of people involved, but when it comes to reckoning the material gain resulting from contests between employers and employees, you might as well ask what has been the cost and the material gain of the American Revolution, of the abolition movement which brought about our Civil War, or any movement for reform or struggle against injustice. It was generally conceded that the results of such events, even when lost, are highly beneficial to the progress and elevation of the human race, by improving the standards of right and wrong, by instilling a more wholesome public spirit, and eventually establishing conditions that make a greater prosperity and happiness possible. Resistance to wrongs prevents servility, prevents greater injustice from being done, and leads to the eventual overthrow of such conditions. Likewise in the movement of labor, even granting that many strikes are lost, such strikes create a

greater regard for the rights and interest of the workers, stops many advantages from being taken of them, and, as has been demonstrated, such defeats teach a lesson by which in future the cause of defeat can be avoided. This is looking at the question from the unfavorable side, but how about the numerous strikes that are won in which the increased wages gained leads to further increases, etc., for an indefinite period? . . . All these advantages gained by the wage-earners mean a higher standard of living, larger purchasing capacity, stimulation of business, and infuse a feeling of confidence and independence among the wage-earners which is bound to stamp itself upon the future. Another important point: Many strikes in individual trades really do not cause a loss of time, as the length of the slack season is often shortened thereby."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

How different are these Congressmen,
As in review they pass;
For some will rule with tongue and pen,
While some blow out the gas.

—*The Star, Washington.*

JOHN SHERMAN intimates that he has reached a point at which he would rather write than be President.—*The World, New York.*

AT the moment of going to press our coast defenses consisted of a large gun at Fort Hancock and Senator Chandler.—*The Tribune, Detroit.*

STATESMAN: "I hardly know how to deal with my people on this money question."

His Secretary—"That's easy; when they tackle you, don't deal, but continue to shuffle."—*The Journal, Indianapolis.*

"WHAT means this W. C. T. U.,
Which makes such constant fuss?"
The maiden frowned. "I thought you knew
That 'Whisky Can't Touch Us!'"

—*The Tribune, New York.*

It takes a bad man to be a good politician.—*Puck, New York.*

WE have finished the turkey. Now for the Turk!—*Recorder, New York.*

"THE Bible's written for the men
(So she indicts it),
And then she calmly takes her pen
And rewrites it.

—*The Press, New York.*

CANNIBALISM has disappeared from the American continent but the Democrats still roast a negro occasionally.—*The Herald, St. Joseph.*



—*The Recorder, New York.*

LETTERS AND ART.

INTERESTING GLIMPSES OF HALL CAINE'S LIFE.

MR. CAINE'S friend, Robert Harborough Sherard, gives an interesting sketch of the novelist's life from his earliest days down to the present. Omitting biographical data which are generally well known, we quote from this article (*McClure's*, December) some entertaining parts, first as to Mr. Caine's childhood at the Manx cottage of Ballavolley:

"Hall Caine's impressions of his life at Ballavolley are vivid—the old preacher at the church, the drinking-bouts of 'jough'-beer by the gallon among the villagers, the donkey rides upon the curragh. But what it best pleases him to remember are the times when, seated in the ingle-nook, he used to listen to his grandmother telling fairy stories, as she sat at her black oak spinning-wheel, bending low over the whirling yarn. 'Hommybeg'—it was a pet name she had given to him—'Hommybeg,' she would say, 'I will tell you of the fairies.' And the story that he liked best to listen to, tho it so frightened him that he would run and hide his face in the folds of the blue Spanish cloak which Manx women have worn since two ships of the Great Armada were wrecked upon the island, was the story of how his grandmother, when a lass, had seen the fairies with her own eyes. . . . He was a precocious lad, and knew no greater delight

than to read. The first book that he remembers reading was a bulky tome on the German Reformation, about Luther and Melancthon, which he had found. He spent weeks over it, and, staggering under its weight, would carry it out into the hayfield, where, truant to the harvest, he would lie behind the stacks and read and read. One night, indeed, his interest in this book led him to break the rules of his thrifty home—where children went to bed when it was dark, so that candles should not be burned—and light the candles and read on about Luther. He was found thus by one of his aunts as, pails in hand, she returned home from milking the cows. Her anger was great. 'Candles lit!' she cried. 'What's to do? Candles! Wasting candles on reading, on mere reading!' He was beaten and sent to bed, bursting with indignation at such injustice, for he felt that candles were nothing compared to knowledge. He was a bookish boy, wanting in boyishness, and never played games, but spent his time in reading, not boyish books, indeed, but books in which never boy before took interest—histories, theological works, and, in preference, parliamentary speeches of the great orators, which he would afterward rewrite from memory."

Mr. Gladstone has from the first been one of Mr. Caine's warmest admirers, and in fact was an early business patron of the novelist, whom he appointed to the stewardship of one of his Lancashire estates. Mr. Caine's first writings were done in the Isle of Man at the house of his uncle, the schoolmaster at Kirk Maughold, which place is described by Mr. Sherard as follows:

"A visit to Kirk Maughold will afford to the observer the best insight into Hall Caine's literary temperament. The spirit of the place expounds his spirit; its genius seems to have entered into him. There are seasons when this headland height lies serene and calm, wrapped in such loveliness of light on sea and land that the heart melts for very ecstasy at the beauty of all things around, the glowing hills, the flowers that are everywhere, the sea beyond, the tenderness, the color, the native poetry of it

all. There are seasons, too, of strife and hurricane, of titanic forces battling in the air, when vehement and irresistible winds burst forth to make howling havoc on the bleakest heights—so they seem then—that man's foot ever trod. There are times when not one harebell nods its head in the calm air, not one seed falls from the feathered grass, in the tender serenity of a quiet world; and there are times, too, when Nature aroused puts forth her terrible strength, so that man ventures abroad at his great peril, and ropes must be stretched along the roads by which the unwary wanderer may drag his storm-tossed body home. In Hall Caine's work we also find these extremes of tenderness and its calm, of passion and its riot."

At about the age of twenty-four, having removed to Liverpool, Mr. Caine's lecture on Rossetti won him the friendship of that poet and artist, with whom he afterward lived. Rossetti died in

his arms on Easter Day, 1882.

It was Rossetti who encouraged Mr. Caine to become "the novelist of Manxland." In 1892 Mr. Caine went to Russia, under the auspices of a Jewish committee, to write up the persecutions of the Jews in that country. When he returned to Cumberland he attempted a story which was to be called "The Jew," but he soon realized the impossibility of competing in their own field with the great Russian novelists, and on going back to the Isle of Man he turned his Jewish story into a Manx story, and "The Jew" became "The Manxman."

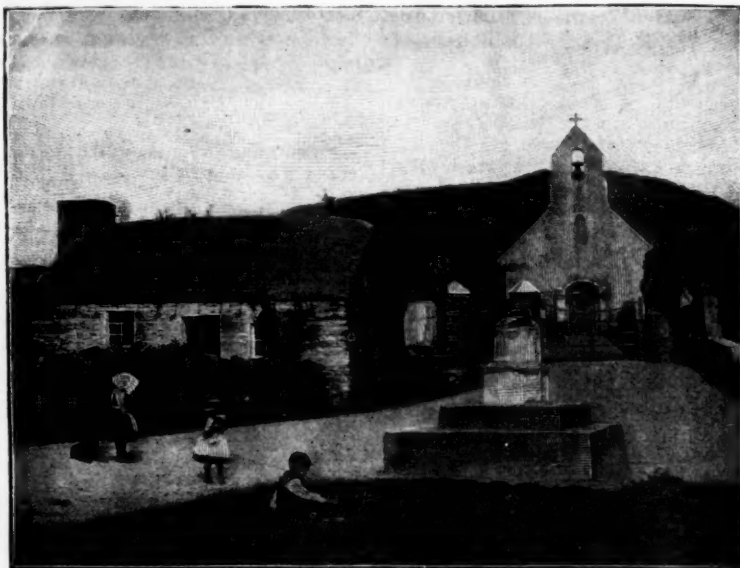
Mr. Caine says that he thinks he knows his Bible as

few literary men know it; that all the strong situations in his books are taken from the Bible. "The Deemster" is the story of the Prodigal Son; "The Bondman" is the story of Esau and Jacob, with sympathy attaching to Esau; "The Scapegoat" is the story of Eli and his sons, but with Samuel as a little girl; and "The Manxman" is the story of David and Uriah. It is said that in all his books the central motive is the same. Mr. Sherard gives Mr. Caine's own testimony on this point, as follows:

"It is," he says, "the idea of justice, the idea of a divine justice, the idea that righteousness always works itself out, that out of hatred and malice comes love. My theory is that a novel, a piece of imaginative writing, must end with a sense of justice, must leave the impression that justice is inevitable."

Many persons are interested in knowing all about a great writer's methods of work. In this connection Mr. Sherard lets Mr. Caine speak for himself, as follows:

"I don't think that I have sat down to a desk to write for years. I write in my head to begin with, and the actual writing, which is from memory, is done on any scrap of paper that may come to hand; and I always write on my knee. My work is as follows: first get my idea, my central motive, and this usually takes me a very long time. The incidents come very quickly, for the invention of incidents is a very easy matter to me. I then labor like mad in getting knowledge. I visit the places I propose to describe. I read every book I can get bearing on my subject. It is elaborate, laborious, but very delightful. I then make voluminous notes. Then begins the agony. Each day it besets me, winter or summer, from five in the morning till breakfast time. I awake at five and lie in bed, thinking out the chapter that is to be written that day, composing it word for word. That usually takes me up till seven. From seven till eight I am engaged in mental revision of the chapter. I then get up and write it down from memory, as fast as ever the pen will flow. The rest



KIRK MAUGHOLD, WHICH FIGURES IN "THE BONDMAN" AND "THE MANXMAN."
(By courtesy of *McClure's Magazine*.)

of the morning I spend in lounging about, thinking, thinking, thinking of my book. For when I am working on a new book I think of nothing else; everything else comes to a standstill. In the afternoon I walk or ride, thinking, thinking. In the evenings, when it is dark, I walk up and down my room constructing my story. It is then that I am happiest. I do not write every day—sometimes I take a long rest, as I am doing at present—and when I do write, I never exceed fifteen hundred words a day."

FRENCHWOMEN AND THE FRENCH NOVELIST.

THE romance-writers of France are not fond of picturing the Frenchwoman as a good wife and mother. This being the case, foreigners may be pardoned for supposing that in the French novel they see reflected the natural type of woman. This the French vehemently deny. We have lately heard Max O'Rell rail against the English and American idea of French morals, and we now have M. Hugues Le Roux affirming (in *La Figaro*, Paris, October 30) that French novelists owe apology and reparation to their countrywomen. In the first place they have pictured not the Frenchwoman but the Parisienne; and secondly, the Parisienne of their books is not French at all, but a distortion of some one or other of a bevy of twenty foreign professional beauties who have domesticated themselves at Paris. Says M. Le Roux:

"Every day I suffer more from the opinion that foreigners have formed of our women and our young girls. They believe, or they pretend to believe, that every fireside has its gallant. If you venture to protest, they have a decisive argument to shut your mouth. They declare: 'We invent nothing. We repeat but a small part of what your French novelists say daily of their wives and their sisters.'

"Once I did repel this calumny publicly. It was at Christiania, in a lecture at a students' club. Half the audience was composed of women and girls. I said to them:

"You are determined to judge French women by the cases published in the *Gazette des Tribunaux* and by the lurid pictures of our romancers. Ah, well! For my part, I have come to your country to see whether the Norwegian women and girls really live like Ibsen's heroines."

"There was a protest and a laugh. I had the credit, for at least an hour, of telling the truth. I do not pretend that this little seed took root; too many hands are daily sowing tares among the grain.

"These thoughts, which come to me often, assailed me with greater force than usual to-day, here in Germany, when I write these lines. I was walking in the classic shades of Bonn with a university professor. Suddenly my companion opened his paper, glanced at the news, and said:

"Gustave Droz is dead. The Frenchwoman and the French family have lost in him one of those rare romancers of their race that have respected them. And yet, do you know how we look at her—this worthy woman of Droz—'Madame,' the wife of 'Monsieur,' the mother of 'Bebé'? She seems to us (excuse my frankness)—she seems to us to have the manners of a woman of bad reputation."

But the characters of Droz, M. Le Roux goes on to explain, date from the end of the Second Empire, when vice was fashionable and when every one was more or less tinctured with its manners, if not with its morals. The trouble with him and with other French romancers, says M. Le Roux, is that they mistake Paris for France, and that when they draw the Parisian woman they draw the woman who makes the greatest stir in Paris—the cosmopolite, a mixture of Russian, American, and Frenchwoman. He quotes the opinion of his German professor as follows:

"I have lived in your provinces and I believe that . . . your romancers know nothing of provincial life. All have their eyes fixed on Paris, and the good Frenchwoman of whom you speak,

pays, in the good opinion of the world, for the looseness of the Parisienne."

And he adds:

"My face burns every time I hear the name 'Parisienne' applied to the cosmopolitan woman who has installed herself at Paris and who is surrounded by a crowd of snobs and do-nothings. Read in the fashionable papers the list of those elegant persons that now form 'all Paris.' They are emigrants from the two Americas, ladies on a vacation, wives and daughters of cosmopolitan financiers. This bevy of beauties have not a drop of French blood in their veins. They live outside of our domestic and religious traditions. They share not one of our patriotic feelings or of our social prejudices. They imagine that they are Parisiennes because they go to the Opera, the Français, the Sorbonne, and the great dressmakers. They even make us believe it, for with their woman's gift of assimilation . . . they give us the illusion of French culture. They pay court to the writers; . . . they persuade them that they alone are interesting. They have obliged the novelists to take them as models. There are twenty women, as well known as actresses, who for ten years have posed for the romance-writers.

"What has the real Parisienne of Paris to do with all these lawn-tennis parties—she whom Alphonse Daudet alone, perhaps, in these twenty years, has seen and loved, this Parisienne who performs the miracle of conducting her house perfectly without turning into a housekeeper, of educating her children without becoming a pedant, of remaining attractive without falling into frivolity?

"I told all this to my companion on the garden bench at Bonn. I pleaded with the ardor of one who defends his fireside. My friend was willing to be convinced, but he said:

"If you have such a treasure as that, why hide her from the rest of the world? It would be a new field for the writers to work!"

"In fact, after having defamed those that we love, why not say something good about them? French novelists owe reparation to the Frenchwoman."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

How Longfellow Wrote Some of His Poems.—Hezekiah Butterworth has a chatty article on Longfellow in *The Ladies' Home Journal* (December), giving from memory a conversation he once had with the poet in the latter's house. Longfellow told as follows how he wrote certain of his poems:

"I will tell you first how I came to write the 'Psalm of Life.' I was a young man then; I well recall the time. It was a bright day and the trees were blooming, and I felt an impulse to write out my aim and purpose in the world. I wrote the poem and put it into my pocket. I wrote it for myself; I did not intend it for publication. Some months afterward I was asked for a poem by a popular magazine; I recalled my 'Psalm of Life;' I copied it, sent it to the periodical; it saw the light, took wings and flew over the world. . . .

"I wrote 'Excelsior,'" he continued, "after receiving a letter from Charles Sumner, at Washington, full of lofty sentiments. In one of the sentences occurred the word 'Excelsior.' As I dropped the letter that word again caught my eye. I turned over the letter and wrote my poem. I wrote the 'Wreck of the Hesperus' because after reading an account of the loss of a part of the Gloucester fishing fleet in an autumn storm, I met the words 'Norman's Woe.' I retired for the night after reading the report of the disaster, but the scene haunted me. I arose to write, and the poem came to me in whole stanzas. . . .

"My poem entitled 'The Bridge,'" he said, in effect, "was written in sorrow, which made me feel for the loneliness of others. I was a widower at the time, and I used sometimes to go over the bridge to Boston evenings to meet friends, and to return near midnight by the same way. The way was silent, save here and there a belated footstep. The sea rose or fell among the wooden piers, and there was a great furnace on the Brighton hills whose red light was reflected by the waves. It was on such a late solitary walk that the spirit of the poem came upon me. The bridge has been greatly altered, but the place of it is the same."

SIR HENRY IRVING ON THE VILLAINY OF
MACBETH.

THE generally received opinion regarding *Macbeth* has been that of a good man who went wrong under the dominating influence of a wicked wife. Sir Henry Irving does not share that opinion. In a lecture on the character of *Macbeth*, given in Columbia College on the 20th of November, he began by saying that this tradition was mainly due to the powerful rendering of the character of *Lady Macbeth* by Mrs. Siddons, whose personality lent itself to the view of an essentially dominant woman, and as the play was not given often, the tradition flourished without challenge, save now and then some scholarly comment which practically never reached the masses. We quote briefly from the lecture at this point:

"Shakespeare has in his text given *Macbeth* as one of the most bloody-minded, hypocritical villains in all his long gallery of portraits of men instinct with the virtues and vices of their kind. It is in the very text that, before the opening of the play—before the curtain rises upon it—*Macbeth* had not only thought of murdering *Duncan*, but had even broached the subject to his wife, and that this vague possibility became a resolute intention under stress of unexpected developments; that altho *Macbeth* played with the subject, and even cultivated assiduously a keen sense of the horrors of his crimes, his resolution never really slackened. Thus we find that the very first suggestion of murder comes from him on the occasion of his meeting with the witches:

'Why do I yield to that suggestion,
Whose horrid image doth unfix my hair,
My thought whose murder yet is but fantastical?'"

We will not follow Mr. Irving in his minute analysis of the play, but will confine ourselves to his more concrete views of the character of *Macbeth*, such as the following:

"It is quite possible that *Macbeth* led his wife to believe that she was leading him on. It was a part of his nature to work to her moral downfall in such a way. . . . His hypocrisy runs throughout the play. There is no stronger instance of it than when in the presence of his wife he pathetically pictures the aspect of the murdered king and the innocent attendants, whose faces he and his 'dearest partner of greatness' had smeared with blood. This is certainly a little too much for the lady—for she faints and is carried away. He was a poet with his brain—the greatest poet that Shakespeare has ever drawn—and a villain with his heart, and the mere appreciation of his own wickedness gave irony to his grim humor, and zest to his crime. He loved throughout to paint himself and his deeds in the blackest pigments, and to bring to the exercise of his wickedness the conscious deliberation of an intellectual voluptuary. All through the play his darkest deeds are heralded by high thoughts told in the most glorious word-painting, so that after a little the reader or the hearer comes to understand that the excellence of the poetic thought is but a suggestion of the measure of the wickedness that is to follow. Indeed, he conveys the hypocritical idea set forth by Mr. Lewis Carroll in 'The Walrus and the Carpenter,' when that skilled laborer was dealing with the oysters:

'With sobs and tears he sorted out those of the largest size.
Holding his pocket-handkerchief before his streaming eyes.'

"In one point I wish no one to mistake me, that is, as to *Macbeth's* bravery. Of this there can be no doubt either historically or in Shakespeare's play. Indeed, Shakespeare insists throughout on this great manly quality, and at the very outset of the tragedy twice puts in the mouths of other characters speeches couching their declarations in poetic form. Thus the bleeding Sergeant says:

'The brave Macbeth, well he deserves that name.'

"The next witness to the valor of the Thane is given by Ross,

who designates him by the majestic figure 'that Bellona's bridegroom.' It is to his moral qualities which I refer when I dub him villain. He bears witness himself at the close of Act III., when he announces his fixed intent on a general career of selfish crime, and this to the wife whose hands have touched the crown, and whose heart has by now felt the vanity of the empty circlet:

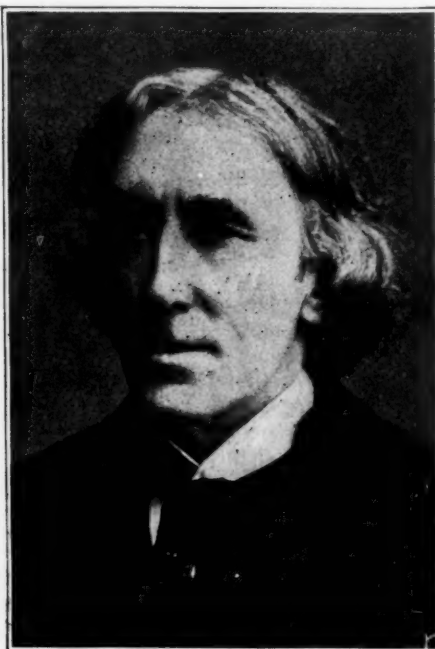
'For mine own good
All causes shall give way: I am in blood
Stepp'd in so far, that should I wade no more,
Returning were as tedious as go o'er.
Strange things I have in head that will to hand,
Which must be acted ere they may be scann'd.'

"How any student, whether he be of the stage or not, can take the above passages, and, reading them in any light he may, can torture out a meaning of *Macbeth's* native nobility or honor, I am truly at a loss to conceive. Grapes do not grow on thorns, or figs on thistles, and how any one can believe that a wish for and an intent to murder—and for mere gain, tho that gain be the hastening to a crown—can find lodgment in a noble breast, I know not.

Let it be sufficient that *Macbeth*—hypocrite, murderer, traitor, regicide—threw over his many crimes the glamour of his own self-torturing thought. He was a Celt, and in every phase of his life his Celtic fervor was manifest. It is not needed that we, who are students in our various ways of an author's meaning, should make so little of him as to lose his main purpose in the misty beauty of his poetic words.

"A poetic mind on which the presages and suggestions of supernatural things could work; a nature sensitive to intellectual emotion, so that one can imagine him even in his contemplation of coming crimes to weep for the pain of the destined victim; self-torturing, self-examining, playing with conscience so that action and reaction of poetic thought might send emotional waves through the brain while the resolution was as grimly fixed as steel and the heart as cold as ice; a poet supreme in the power of words with vivid imagination and quick sympathy of intellect; a villain cold-blooded, selfish, remorseless, with a true villain's nerve and callousness when braced to evil work, and the physical heroism of those who are born to kill; a moral nature with

only sufficient weakness to quake momentarily before superstitious terrors; a man of sentiment and not of feeling. Such was the mighty dramatic character which Shakespeare gave to the world in *Macbeth*."



SIR HENRY IRVING.

Why Non-Copyright Books are Reprinted.—The New York *Evening Post* says: "Reprints of non-copyright books—especially of non-copyright fiction—continue to be a marked feature of the publishing year. The practice was explained in 1893 as a result of the hard times; book sales were greatly restricted, publishers had nothing to give to authors, and so had recourse to writings on which copyright had lapsed. But 1894 saw no diminution in the reprints, tho the 1893 explanation no longer held. The number of new editions of Scott put out within two years is a thing to marvel at, and with him have come Fielding and Defoe in modern costume, with Miss Austen, Miss Ferrier, Maria Edgeworth, and Charlotte Brontë in dress as various as their feminine exigencies required. It began to look as if the guests at the year's literary feast were smacking their lips over this old wine in general agreement that it was better than the newer vintages. But the thing has gone on this year, with little or no abatement, and now comes a London publisher to give the true explanation of it. He says it is a result of the greed of authors, inflamed by the hotheads of the Authors' Society. They insist upon doubled or trebled royalties, he says, and the publisher is driven to the works of writers comfortably dead forty years before the Authors' Society was born. There is the whole British Museum to fall back upon, Mr. Laurie adds, and he thinks that latter-day authors will be starved into surrender before the end of that pile of books is reached."

IS THERE A "TWILIGHT" OF AMERICAN NOVELISTS?

MR. EDGAR FAWCETT says in *The Independent* that there surely is just now a twilight of American novelists. Recalling the American rage for George Eliot, Anthony Trollope, Charles Reade, Wilkie Collins, Miss Braddon, Ouida, Rhoda Broughton, and other English writers, he comes to the time when American fiction largely displaced their stories with us, and in this connection mentions the names of Mr. Henry James, Mr. Howells, Mr. Lathrop, Mr. Bishop, Mr. Julian Hawthorne, Pro-

fessor Boyesen, Mr. Cable, Mrs. Ellen Olney Kirk, Charles Egbert Craddock, Mrs. Burnett, Amélie Rives, and others, and then says:

"Ten years ago, America presented for the criticism of the civilized world an astonishing group of novelists. The psychologic aroma of George Eliot clung to most of them, but by many was shown a tendency to draw largely upon such writers as Daudet,



EDGAR FAWCETT.

Maupassant, Cherbuliez, and even Zola, in the way of inspiration and aid. The method of these masters, and especially their technical security and dispassionate self-effacement, underwent obvious though never slavish reproduction here. In critical gatherings, even among weekly and daily journals, English novelists were seldom discussed. If their works had signal transatlantic sales, I can not say, but cultivated people rarely either extolled or abused them; they simply ceased to extend them more than meager heed."

And now, exclaims Mr. Fawcett, what a wave of change has swept over our public mind! Referring to a taunt in one of our leading newspapers about "the deadly stupidity of the American novel," he says that "it seems to be the fashion to say this and to write this, whether one really thinks it or no," and continues:

"Every new month some new English writer dawns with the splendor of an immense popularity upon our firmament of fiction. Does he so dawn—or has he previously so dawned—upon his own? All the vivid, strenuous, thoughtful, poetic work of our native novelists has passed into oblivious disregard. A troop of men and women, who are, for the most part, imitators of Robert Louis Stevenson, usurp attention and comment. It would be foolish to deny that merit exists amid this flood of rather hectic and flamboyant literature. But in it, I should say, are few signs of permanency. The stories are mostly written with an aim of mere passing amusement; some of them are literature, but few are good literature. Cleverness in plenty they may contain, but seldom either subtlety, meditation, or depth. They often have the air of being dashed off at a white heat; and the impressions which they make, whether historic or contemporaneous, are in few cases lasting. Their style is mainly one of staccato pertness; at their best they are apt to be etched rather than painted. They have plenty of 'color' and 'go,' sometimes they bristle with bayonets and rattle with gunshots. A great deal is 'done' in them; the 'action' is prodigious. But too frequently their good people and their bad people are the merest shadows. Epigram is substituted for analysis, and a dread of fatiguing the reader by giving him anything really to think about is so prevalent that it suggests the very drollery of commercialism.

"Meanwhile the poor American novelist can only bow his head and accept his destiny. If he has gone out of fashion, he should console himself with the reflection that fashion is, after all, but another word for caprice; and he should recollect, too, that thus far, in the entire esthetic history of nations, his own American

country people (as regards loyalty to their writers of books, painters of pictures, and even molders of statues) are the most hot-and-cold, fast-and-loose, whimsical, freakish, and generally unpatriotic ever yet known.

"Just now it is surely the twilight of our American novelists. Will night follow, or another morning? I, for one, very firmly believe the last."

NOTES.

ALEXANDRE DUMAS the younger died on November 27, in Paris, where he was born July 28, 1827. At the age of 17 he published "Les Péchés de Jeunesse," a small collection of poems of no value. After traveling with his father through Spain and Africa, he returned to Paris, and thenceforth his life was devoted to authorship. His "La Dame aux Camélias," which was based on fact, created a great sensation. It was written first as a novel, and attained such success that Dumas dramatized the story. Afterward it was reproduced in Verdi's "Traviata." Dumas was exceedingly prolific both of novels and plays, among his successes being "Le Fils Naturel" (1858), "L'Ami des Femmes" (1864), "Les Idées de Mme. Aubray" (1867), "La Princesse Georges" (1871), "La Femme de Claude," and "Monsieur Alphonse" (1873), "L'Etrangère" (1877), "La Princesse de Bagdad" (1881), "Denise" (1885), and "Francillon" (1887). "La Femme de Claude" was a dramatic version of his novel "L'Affaire Clemenceau." He was made a member of the French Academy on January 30, 1874, succeeding Pierre Lebrun. Victor Hugo appeared for the first time at a meeting of the "Immortal Forty" after his return to France in order to vote for Dumas, who was elected by a vote of 22 to 11. Within the last year he was made Grand Officer of the Legion of Honor.

THE late Alexandre Dumas recently quoted Maupassant's ideal of a literary life: "If I were rich enough, not to be obliged to write," that perfect writer and remarkable observer said to me one day, 'my dream would be to write only one more book, a short one, at which I should always continue to work, and which I should order to be buried on the day of my death.' And M. Dumas flattered himself that he was beginning to realize this dream of Maupassant. He had been at work for some time on a play called "La Route de Thèbes," but he was getting old, disinclined to work, and fastidious. When he thought the play in a fit state to be presented to the public, he would present it. Or he might put it back in his desk. He said he had arrived at an age when the best thing a man can do is to hold his tongue. What does Mr. Gladstone say to that?—*The St. James's Gazette*.

GEORGE MACDONALD'S lectures in America were not a success. He never prepared a lecture, but talked gracefully and easily. This was not appreciated in his day. The evening that he was to lecture in Music Hall, Boston, he dined with James T. Fields, who asked him what he was to lecture about. His reply was, "I don't know, I shall decide what to say after I get upon the platform. I have made no preparation." . . . Wilkie Collins was frequently at the home of Dickens. The two men were great friends. After Dickens's success with his readings in America, Collins came over. He was never a success upon the platform, though his first evening in any city was sure to call forth a large audience. His invariable practise was to take a recess in the midst of an evening's reading, retire to an ante-room and take a generous draught of English ale.—*The Journal of Education*.

MR. STEDMAN has publicly confirmed the report that he had declined an offer of the Billings chair of English Literature at Yale University. To a *Sun* reporter he said: "If such a post had been offered to me twenty years ago, I should have accepted without the least hesitation, but coming, as it does, late in life, I think it would take up too much of my time to learn the requirements of the place. I have never been a teacher and do not know how I should succeed as a utilitarian at this time of life. Yale is making an effort to better her English departments, and I think it best to put young blood in the places; men who are vigorous and active and can devote their whole time and energy to the work and grow up with it."

MR. HENRY CAVLING, a Copenhagen journalist visiting in this country, said to the *Boston Advertiser*: "Journalism in Denmark is decidedly different from the American. For instance we have on our paper about forty editorial writers and five reporters. We have no need of any more reporters, because nothing ever happens. Why, we do not have a murder once in ten years. So, of course, the papers there are more devoted to literary articles than to news. Your editorial page is much like our entire paper."

MR. F. HAYDON WILLIAMS calls attention, in *The Speaker*, to the fact that the phrase "sweetness and light" is not one of Matthew Arnold's own making, as is commonly supposed; that the phrase was made by Dean Swift in his "Battle of the Books," published in 1704, who wrote: "We have rather chosen to fill our hives with honey and wax; thus furnishing mankind with the two noblest of things, which are sweetness and light."

M. BARTHÉLEMY SAINT-HILAIRE, who died in Paris on November 24, had occupied a prominent place in French literature and politics for nearly seventy years, and to the last preserved an extraordinary degree of bodily and intellectual activity. He was born in Paris in August, 1805, and began his public career in the Ministry of Finance under Charles X. He enjoyed a peculiar distinction as one of the few living men familiar, from actual experience, with the person of the first Napoleon.

BARON JOHN BYRNE LEICESTER WARREN DE TABLEY, the English poet, died November 24. He was the only son of Baron George de Tabley, was born in 1835, was educated at Eton, and was a lawyer by profession. He held a high place among the minor English poets, and was master of a refined and elevated style. His title becomes extinct by his death, but a cousin succeeds to the baronetcy which he held.

AN organ has been placed in St. Margaret's Church, Somersby, bearing the following inscription on a brass plate: "To the Glory of God, and in memory of Alfred, Lord Tennyson, Poet Laureate, this organ was given by subscription to St. Margaret's Somersby, the church of his birthplace and of his baptism."

ARTHUR ARNOULD, the French littérateur, and formerly a member of the Commune, died in Paris, November 25. He was born at Dieuze in 1833, and was the son of a professor of foreign literature at the Sorbonne.

SCIENCE.

ARE OUR ENGINEERING WORKS
PERMANENT?

AS the traveler looks up at the mighty piles of masonry left by the Egyptians of long ago, or at the less massive but more graceful structures of the Greek, or at the utilitarian roads and aqueducts of the Roman, he can not help wondering whether the boasted scientific skill of our age will enable us to leave any such evidences of our existence in centuries to come. Such a question can be answered approximately by bringing into play what science has taught us of the permanence of various materials and of the forces of nature that are continually at work upon them. It is thus answered in *The Scientific American* (November 16) in an editorial article from which we quote a few paragraphs, as follows:

"The question of the comparative durability of our nineteenth-century engineering and architectural works is an interesting one.

"We will assume—altho we see nothing to indicate the fact—that the tide of Western civilization has reached its high-water mark, and that in the splendid achievements in the arts and sciences, which have marked the closing years of the nineteenth century, the Western races have reached the zenith of their powers. We will assume for the sake of argument that from this time on a decline shall set in which shall ultimately lead to a decrepitude and decay as complete as that of the races of Assyria and Egypt, Greece and Rome—and at the same time ask the question: How many of our great public works will be left standing upon the earth forty centuries hence, to bear witness to our nineteenth-century knowledge and skill?

"Are there in New York, London, or Paris buildings that will stand for forty centuries the buffeting of wind and weather as those stately edifices by the Euphrates and Nile have stood? Probably not; nor is the fact any reflection upon the work of the modern builder. It is merely a result of the more artistic modern taste, which expresses itself in a style of architecture that is at once more picturesque and less durable than the gloomy temples and palaces of the ancient builders.

"This is the age of steel and iron, materials for construction of which the ancient races appear to have known very little. As compared with stone, they are less durable. Left to itself, an iron or steel structure will, in time, corrode and disappear. Unless the skeleton frames of our modern lofty buildings be carefully built in and protected from oxidation, it is certain that their life will be limited; for, should the steel-work ever be eaten away by rust, there will be no strength in the lower walls adequate to carrying the great superimposed load of the upper stories. This, of course, is not an immediate contingency; but in reckoning the life of buildings—as we are now doing—by centuries, it is an element of decay that may ultimately be responsible for their collapse.

"Of the great steel and iron structures, such as the Brooklyn and the Forth bridges, it may safely be said that their life will be contemporaneous with their careful maintenance and repair. The theory of the crystallization of steel under continued stress is now pretty well exploded; and it is generally conceded that if a steel structure, such as the Brooklyn Bridge, which is subject only to static strains, be carefully protected by painting, its life may be indefinitely prolonged. Left to itself, however, as the works of the ancients have been left, the rust eating through the cables would ultimately bring the whole structure into the river, leaving the granite towers as an indestructible monument to mark where the bridge once stood.

"The great systems of water-works, both for municipal supply and for irrigation, will provide many lasting monuments to the energy and skill of the nineteenth century. Nothing constructed in Egypt or Assyria was more durable than is the masonry of the great dam of the Croton water-works.

"In constructing our vast system of railroads we have written our history in monumental lines of rock and earth, that will probably last as long as this globe turns upon its axis. Should some glacial period return and grind these embankments and cuttings out of existence, there would yet remain the great tunnels, to show with what unconquerable energy we pushed our way even through the heart of the hills themselves."

STUDY OF THE CRIMINAL.

THE whole science of modern criminology gathers around the name of Lombroso. The Italian professor has taught us that the criminal is worthy of study, and we owe to his life-work the great mass of what we now know in this line of research. To have founded a science is in itself a proud distinction, but Lombroso is not content with that—he is still one of the chief laborers in the field that he was the first to cultivate. Hence much interest attaches to a new edition of his celebrated work on the criminal, giving the results of his latest researches, and we translate, in part, a review of it that appears in the *Revue Scientifique* (Paris, October 26). After stating that an idea of the indefatigable activity of the author may be gathered from the fact that instead of 100 skulls described in the first edition 384 are here dealt with, while the number of criminals examined has risen to nearly 6,000, the reviewer goes on as follows:

"The new edition contains also researches on the numerical proportion of anomalies according to sex and to crime; . . . a study in the living subject of anomalies of the thorax, feet, and hands, notably the anomalies of the ear, which have been studied in 25,000 individuals.

"M. Lombroso has also completed his study of tattooing, taking advantage of work already done by our countrymen [the French], and of his own examination of more than 10,000 individuals.

"Finally, molecular changes, . . . calorimetry, weight, sensation—are all elements that have formed the objects of new investigations.

"All these elements are grouped by the author with a view to the demonstration of his thesis, which is, as is well known, that the born criminal is a separate type, ancestral or pathologic, differing only in degree from the morally insane, and of the same class as the epileptic. All criminals, in fact, are, for M. Lombroso, epileptoids, which may be grouped thus, according to the increasing amount of their deviation from the normal man:

"The occasional criminal.

"The criminal from passion.

"The born criminal.

"The morally insane.

"The epileptic.

"Above all, the reader should turn to the chapter on criminaloids, that is, those criminals that yield only to an extremely powerful temptation. . . . All degrees can be observed between the normal and the abnormal state, and he takes up here the interesting study of those who are at the foot of the scale, the most similar to well-balanced people, the abnormal persons that one meets at each step in society, and that have more chances of remaining honest than of falling into crime, provided only that circumstances favor them.

"These individuals are of the attenuated type of the born criminal, and the study of these attenuated or transition forms is, in the whole domain of biology, the most interesting for minds of a philosophical bent. . . .

"In fine, whatever one may think of the value of all these elements and all these documents, taken by themselves, it is none the less true that, in their entirety, they confirm without any possible doubt the theory of M. Lombroso. Perhaps one may dispute some of the terms of the author's formulas, but—we wish to repeat this again—almost everybody is at the present time in accord on the point that the criminal is an abnormal person whose responsibility must be considered from another point of view than that to which we had become accustomed in former times, that he is really in some degree of unbalanced mind.

"Now this new conception of the criminal, which is in a fair way to change our ideas and our customs regarding criminal justice, is due almost entirely to the agitation provoked by M. Lombroso regarding this question, and as it is a problem eminently human, very fertile, and surely very just, we ought to recognize the part that its author has had in its elucidation."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

"It is reported," says *The Electrical World*, "that Mr. Wenter, of the drainage board, stated that 10,000 horse-power might be obtained from the water-fall of the Chicago drainage-canal at Lockport, and that this would furnish more than enough power for lighting the entire city of Chicago."

THE ADHESIVE ORGANS OF ANIMALS.

THE adhesive organs, such as suckers, that have been developed by different animals for various purposes are treated in an interesting way (*Knowledge*, November 1) by R. Lydekker, from whose article we quote a few paragraphs. In introducing his subject, Mr. Lydekker says:

"Either for the purpose of holding on to inanimate substances, and thus securing protection from attack or safety from the buff-



FIG. 1.—Adhesive Disks of Sucker-footed Bat. *a*, *b*, Disk of wing; *c*, that of hind foot.

fetings of the waves, or by attaching themselves to the bodies of other creatures, and thus obtaining an ample supply of food without any exertions of their own, a considerable number of animals have developed suckers, or other adhesive organs, on some parts of their bodies or limbs, and as these sucking-

organs vary considerably in their specialization and plan of structure in different groups, their comparison forms an interesting subject of study. In addition to these sucking-disks, which are purely for the purpose of adhesion, there are in certain animals, such as the lampreys and leeches, suckers formed by the mouth, thus enabling the fortunate owners of such organs not only to attach themselves, but likewise to procure their food by devouring the blood or flesh of the animal to which they are temporarily fastened."

The simplest type of sucker is that of the limpet and similar creatures, consisting merely of the soft under-surface of the body. They are common in insects, but rare in mammals, the best examples being found in bats, not the so-called "blood-sucking" varieties, which merely scratch the skin with their claws and then swallow the flowing blood, but those that bear the suckers on their feet, for clinging to rocks and the like, as shown in Fig. 1. In fishes there is greater variety, a simple type being that of the goby, or lump-sucker, shown in Fig. 2. The wonderful sucking-organs of another fish are described thus by Mr. Lydekker:

"The most extraordinary adhesive organ is, however, that of the far-famed sucking-fishes, or remoræ (*Echeneis*), of which there are about half a score species, some of which may attain a couple of feet in length. In these fishes the organ takes the form of a flat, oval disk, covering the upper surface of the head and neck, divided into a number of chambers by a middle longitudinal ridge, and a series of pairs of transverse partitions, varying in number from twelve to twenty-seven. The disk causes the upper portion of the head to be so flattened that, when the fish is placed in the ordinary position, it looks as tho it were upside down; the illusion being intensified by the circumstance that generally the lower surface of the body is darker than the upper. Unlike what obtains in the fishes noticed above, in the remora the adhesive disk is formed out of the spinous or front portion of the back-fin, which has completely lost its original character. . . . When the remora applies the disk to any flat surface, such as the skin of a shark, the shell of a turtle, or a ship's bottom, the plates, which are usually depressed, are raised, and a series of vacua produced, and by this means the creatures adheres so tightly that it can scarcely be detached except by pushing or pulling it along the surface. Many fables have collected round the remora, which was known to Aristotle, and in Ovid's time it was believed to have the power of stopping a vessel on its course; altho how this was effected the poet is careful not to say. The dark coloration of the lower parts is due to the circumstance that, when attached to a foreign body, the fish generally has this surface turned upward."

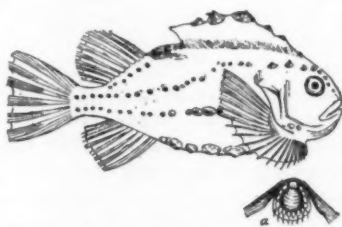


FIG. 2.—The Lump-Sucker and its Adhesive Disk (*a*).

In all these cases the sucking-organs are for the purpose of

attaching the body to some object. In leeches, however, they have a true sucking function, acting to draw the blood from the victim's body into the creature's mouth. Mr. Lydekker reminds us that the leeches belong to the great group of annelids, or worms, and goes on to say:

"In these, the anterior end of the body terminates in a large circular sucker, within which, or the pharynx, is the mouth. Very generally, as in the common medicinal leech, the mouth is armed with sharp teeth, and thus presents a curious structural similarity to that of the lampreys, altho there is, of course, no genetic connection between the two groups. Many leeches also have a sucker at the opposite extremity of the body, by which they are in the habit of attaching themselves to the leaves of trees, from which basis they extend their bodies in the hope of catching hold of a passing animal. In their habits leeches also present a curious similarity to lampreys, except that they only suck the blood of their victims, instead of feeding on the flesh."

COIN AS AN ANTISEPTIC.

THE bacteriologist has something to say on the money question. Viewing the matter from a hygienic point he "comes out" for hard money and for silver or copper in preference to gold. It has long been known that "hard money," as well as paper money, comparatively clean as the former looks, may harbor microbes by the mass, but recent experiments go to show that disease-germs do not thrive on the metal, which seems to possess natural antiseptic qualities. *The Medical News* (November 16), in a note discussing the most recent information on this subject, speaks as follows:

"The bacteriologist has declared that, altho we may acquire riches and escape unhappiness, we must accept the risk of serious contagion every time we realize any of them in the form of money; that the surfaces of coins of all metals and denominations and bank-notes of every description are simply swarming with germs of various degrees of virulence. Cultures have shown the presence of from 450 to 3,500 germs upon a single coin, ranging from the *streptococcus* and *staphylococcus pyogenes* to tubercle bacilli and typhoid bacilli. These have been deposited, of course, from contact with saliva, pus, discharges, soiled fingers, and dirty pockets. The list is an appalling one, and literally supports the Apostle's statement that 'money is the root of all kinds of evil.' That these germs are virulent has recently been shown by inoculating rabbits with their cultures and obtaining characteristic reactions. So far everything is discouraging, and the bacteriologist simply emphasizes the maledictions of the preacher upon literally 'filthy lucre.' But it was soon noticed that the proportion of fatal results from these inoculations was extremely small considering the nature of the germs present, and a series of recent experiments at an Algerian military hospital has developed the surprising fact that coins possess actual bactericidal properties and rapidly destroy or weaken any germs lodged upon their surfaces. In a cold chamber the germs of typhoid and the Friedlander bacillus were destroyed upon sterilized silver or copper coins in eighteen hours; at a temperature of 37° C., about that of the pocket, the bacilli of typhoid, of diphtheria, of blue pus, and the streptococcus are destroyed in six hours. The Löffler bacillus is the most resistant, and upon cold silver or copper coins will live for from three to six days. Moisture and warmth greatly hasten the process, which is probably due to the formation of poisonous oxids and other salts of the metals. A similar action upon the germs of dental caries has been noted by Willoughby as due to the copper amalgam used in filling teeth. Nature's protective mechanisms are even more wonderful than her destructive ones. We have been loudly assured by the socialist and labor-sympathizer that 'capital can always be relied upon to protect itself,' but we little thought to see the statement verified in this wise. Gold coins are much less actively bactericidal than either silver or copper, and germs may survive upon them for five or six days, which may partially console us for their infrequency in our professional pockets. Some kindly disposed individual should certainly bring this latter fact to the knowledge of our bimetalist friends, as it would furnish them with a strong argument against 'the yellow metal.'"

SOLIDIFIED PETROLEUM—A NEW FUEL.

THE invention of a fuel that, if half that its inventor claims for it be true, will turn the world topsy-turvy, is reported in *The Railway Review* (November 16), as follows:

"There are being shown in Sheffield samples of compound compressed solid petroleum, the invention of Paul d'Humy, a French naval engineer. M. d'Humy claims to have solved the problem of solidifying petroleum and low-grade bituminous oil. Under his process, which he does not intend to patent, relying upon preserving the secret, he states that 3 cubic feet will represent the bulk of a ton of coal, and will last combustible as long as 50 tons. The samples shown were soft, but the inventor states that they can be rendered as hard as marble. They were of two kinds—one for domestic use and the other for manufacturing purposes. Both samples placed in the fire gave a strong flame with abundant heat, and lasted considerably longer than equal specimens of coal. Experiments have recently been made in Liverpool, and these are stated to have given surprising results. M. d'Humy says that this compound compressed petroleum is not dangerous, can be easily stored, will not evaporate or occasion any explosion. In addition to that it requires very little draft to burn, produces no smoke or smell, and will not give more than 2 or 3 per cent. of ash. A cubic inch, he adds, will produce a light-bluish flame many hundred times its volume with intense heat. The new fuel burns only on the surface, thereby insuring slow combustion."

The ordinary man of science will doubtless remain incredulous until he sees all these things with his own eyes. Meanwhile, taking these reported tests as his point of departure, the busy prophet is already at work. To quote the article again:

"M. d'Humy expects a great future for this fuel. He looks forward to the time when Atlantic-going steamers, instead of carrying 5,000 to 6,000 tons of coal, will require only 2,000 tons, and with that weight easily do the voyage in four days. He anticipates that it will also render coaling stations less essential to vessels of war, as the battle-ship will be able to stay at sea for several months without taking fresh coal or reducing speed. It will be useful, he says, to armies, as the troops can carry the petroleum about with them in their knapsacks ready for use for cooking or for other purposes on the field. Nor are these advantages all he anticipates. For pleasure-yachts, and even for open grates in private houses, compressed petroleum he expects will supersede raw coal."

The Review comments:

"He might also have added, always supposing that the invention 'fills the bill' of the inventor, that it will make the country practically independent of strikes. These views are of course the views of the inventor. Experiments on an elaborate scale are shortly to be made in Sheffield."

SHALL WE USE CHEMICALS IN PRESERVING FOOD?

WHEN the good housewife is preparing her stock of pickles and preserves for the winter, she is merely preventing or delaying the destructive action of the microbes of decay upon the food that she is putting up, by the use of simple antiseptics, such as the sugar used in making jam, or the salt and vinegar of the pickles. The same result is attained by rigidly excluding air, as in canning. These antiseptic methods have the advantage of introducing only substances that are pleasant to the taste and not injurious to the system. But recently people have discovered that there are scores of other antiseptics, much more powerful and efficacious than these, and able to prevent souring or decay if used in quantities so small as to be imperceptible to the taste. Hence the use, in preserving or canning, of such chemicals as salicylic acid or boracic acid. This is condemned by *The British Medical Journal* in a recent note on "Antiseptics in Foods," which we quote in part below:

"The recent prosecution [in England] for selling orange wine containing a little over three grains to the pint of salicylic acid

suggests the propriety of discussing shortly the general question of preserving foods by antiseptics. Wines are sulfured and doctored with salicylic acid, fluoborates and fluosilicates; to milk in hot weather all sorts of antiseptics are added, the chief being boracic acid, varied of late by the addition of formalin. Boracic acid or borax is also the favorite antiseptic for butters. It may indeed be stated generally that all decomposable articles not sterilized by boiling, or preserved from change by cold, are liable to be treated with small quantities of antiseptics. There may not be in any one article a percentage sufficient to cause, when given in a single dose, appreciable effect, but a person taking boraxed milk and butter for breakfast and tea, and a salicylated wine for dinner, will be consuming day by day a sufficient amount of active drugs to produce some effect on his health. Salicylic acid is a poison. In 1878 a case happened in which so small a dose as 3 grams (46 grains) caused death in forty hours; possibly the acid was impure. In three other cases in which decided and dangerous symptoms were produced the dose was much larger, being 15, 22, and 50 grams respectively. Salicylic and benzoic acids are, therapeutically, attenuated phenols, phenol being most poisonous, then comes salicylic acid, and lastly benzoic acid. It is no sufficient answer to accusations under Section 6 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act to prove that single large doses of a particular addition have been taken by a number of persons without injury; nor indeed is it an answer if such addition is really proved to have been beneficial to health. The question is narrowed down as to whether the nature and quality was that which was demanded by the purchaser. An individual might have no objection to drink a salicylated liquid, always provided he knew that salicylic acid was there, but he would naturally feel aggrieved at buying an article which he believed to be pure if he found it to contain a foreign chemical substance."

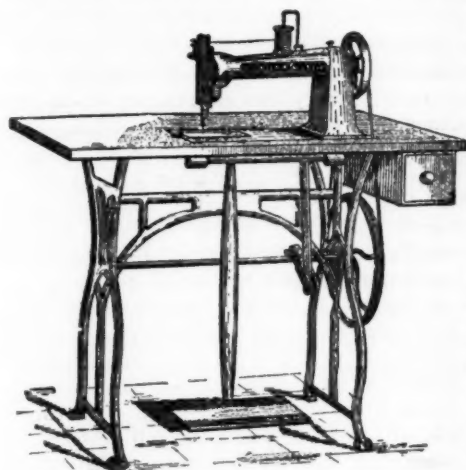
After discussing the possible chemical changes of the acid in the system, and the effects of the compounds that may thus be formed therein—a subject on which there is at present no very exact knowledge—the article concludes thus:

"Be this as it may, the growing use of antiseptics constitutes a possible danger to health. Persons with sound excretory organs have for years daily taken chemicals of the kind in their food without injury, yet it can be confidently predicted that other persons with damaged or weak kidneys will be affected by minute doses. It must also be remembered that digestion in the intestines is carried on to a great extent by what, outside the intestines, would be recognized as a fermentative or putrefactive process. In short, just as the nourishment of a number of plants depends on the microbes around their rootlets, so the assimilation of our own nourishment depends to a large degree on the activity of hosts of colonies of microbes in the intestinal canal. All antiseptics, even in minute quantity, will inhibit the activity of these colonies or affect unequally various species, the net result in ordinary individuals being an impairment of digestion or an actual dyspepsia. The time has apparently come for some definite action with regard to antiseptics in foods and beverages. They should be absolutely prohibited unless a label be placed upon everything sold after being thus treated, stating the nature of the preservative in as large type as any other announcement. Then if the public like to take daily small doses of salicylic or boracic acid or of formaldehyd they can do so, but with the immense advantage of knowing what they are consuming."

Measuring the Force of the Wind by an Æolian Harp.—The principle of the Æolian harp has been put to scientific use. At a recent meeting of the National Academy of Science, reported in *Science*, November 15, Prof. Carl Barus read a paper discussing the sounds made by the wind whistling across a slender obstacle, like a wire. "He showed that the velocity of the wind could be computed from the pitch of the note observed in case of a given diameter of wire and for a given temperature of the air. By aid of a special microphonic attachment such sound could be conveyed to any distance and isolated from the attendant noises at the place of exposure. So represented, the wind was given in every detail of its gusty and variable character, and the term micro-anemometry seemed to be applicable to observations of this nature. Finally the direction of the gust could be inferred from the sounds obtained from three wires at right angles to each other."

A HYGIENIC SEWING-MACHINE TREADLE.

THOUSANDS of weary women can testify to the fatigue caused by running an ordinary sewing-machine all day, and the medical profession is authority for the statement that this fatigue is but the expression of an actual injury to the system resulting from this work. The fatigue is due largely to the peculiar treading motion required to drive the machine. This has just been obviated by the invention of a new form of treadle which is hailed by *The Lancet* (London, November 16) as a boon to



HYGIENIC TREADLE FOR SEWING-MACHINE.

afflicted woman-kind. We quote the description given by that paper, and reproduce from it an illustration showing the arrangement of the new device:

"Sewing-machines adapted for useful general work are invariably driven by a treadle to which either one or both of the feet may be applied. The ordinary treadle answers well for the stitching of exceptionally stout

materials and for the purposes of various machines driven with the foot by men such as turners or printers, but for average sewing-machine work it has the drawback of requiring more effort than is necessary. This extra fatigue is a serious consideration in the case of females employed all day long at the machine, but an ingenious modification of the ordinary treadle has now been introduced by which the labor of the worker will be greatly economized without any sacrifice of efficiency.

"As is well known, the ordinary treadle is horizontal when at rest and has to be forcibly depressed by the foot in order to turn a fly-wheel by means of a crank. In the new system the fly-wheel and crank are retained, but the horizontal treadle is replaced by a vertical one which is hinged to the under side of the table on which the machine rests, and hangs down almost to the floor, where it ends in a horizontal platform for the foot. The worker's foot is not moved up and down to drive the machine by pressing the treadle, but produces the same effect with less labor by a gentle swinging of the foot backward and forward. The muscles chiefly employed are the flexors and extensors of the knee-joint, and the weight of the foot and leg is, of course, supported by the platform on which the foot rests. An important advantage is that the continual movement of the thigh, inevitable under the present system, is so diminished as to be hardly perceptible."

Origin of Color-Blindness.—"A Frenchman, M. Dubois, has made an interesting suggestion as to the origin of color-blindness," says *Knowledge*, November 1. "This defect of vision almost invariably consists in inability to recognize red. Now a body cooling down from incandescence extends its spectrum toward the red end, or, in other words, the white-hot to violet-colored body becomes yellow and finally a dull red as it cools. A few stars such as Sirius are white-hot, many others like our sun are cooler and therefore yellow, while others are so cooled down as to shine with a dull-red light. Primitive man, according to M. Dubois, lived when the sun was in either the Sirius or the pre-Sirius stage, that is, when the sun, which is the source of all color, was white-hot, and had no red component in its spectrum; he had, therefore, no power of recognizing red. Color-blindness, therefore, says M. Dubois, is merely atavism or degeneration to the primitive type. The objection to this ingenious theory is that we have no reason whatever for supposing that primitive man was contemporary with a white-hot sun; further, all white-hot suns that we know of have some red at any rate in their spectrum. The intensity of particular components of the spectrum may vary, but the components are still there."

The Sand-Bath as a Curative Agent.—"The Mohammedans, in their ablutions," says *Cosmos*, November 16, "replace water by sand when needful. This religious practise has, it appears, become an element of modern therapeutics. At the reunion of Swiss physicians held this year at Ouchy, Dr. Suchard read a paper on the sand-bath. Invalids have been completely or partially cured by sand heated to a temperature varying, according to the case, from 45° to 65° C. The sand, containing air between its particles and being a bad conductor of heat, transmits it in a gentle and almost insensible manner. Perspiration is favored up to the point where a patient may lose two quarts of liquid in one sand-bath. Thanks to this evaporation, the invalid may support continued high temperature without the actual temperature of the body rising more than a few degrees, and this without fear of heart affections, if care be taken to put hot sand on the feet at the outset. The number of ailments that may be treated by this powerful curative agent is considerable. In the first place it is especially beneficial to chronic rheumatism and to gout. Neuralgia and sciatica are cured or benefited by local or general baths. The most various organic troubles of the nervous system, cardiac or digestive affections have been treated by this method, sometimes with remarkable success. The same is true of tuberculous affections of the bones and joints. The account given by Dr. Suchard contains statistical tables relating to more than 100 patients annually.—Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

"A GERMAN surgeon, Dr. Hoenig, has designed an apparatus which he calls a cyclo-ambulance," says *The British Medical Journal*. "It consists of a car covered in with canvas, which contains a folding-litter, and rests on four side-wheels, and a fifth wheel in front pedaled by a cyclist. A seat and pedals are also provided at the back for another cyclist. The top part of the car can be lifted off, a patient can then be placed on the litter, and the top replaced on the axles. The patient can be watched by the cyclist at the back through a glazed window; but the patient is also provided with the means of attracting the attention of the cyclist by using the rubber ball of a cycle horn. An aperture in the side of the car affords access to the patient when he is in need of help. The ambulance is reported to be in experimental use in Berlin, and is easily steered and manipulated."

WEIGHING A PENCIL-MARK.—"Scales are now made of such a nice adjustment," says *The Railway Review*, "that they will weigh anything, to the smallest hair plucked from the eyebrow. They are triumphs of mechanism, and are enclosed in glass cases, as the slightest breath of air would impair their records. The glass cases have a sliding door, and as soon as the weight is placed in the balances the door slides down. Two pieces of paper of equal weight can be placed in the scales, and an autograph written in pencil on either piece will cause the other side to ascend, and the needle which indicates the division of weight even to the ten-millionth part of a pound and less will move from its perpendicular. A signature containing nine letters has been weighed and proved to be two milligrams, or the fifteen thousand five hundredth part of an ounce, troy.

The electric searchlight was used recently to put down riot in Lancashire, England. A manufacturer, whose men had struck, was determined to keep his mill going, and he promptly secured new hands and set them to work. At the same time he fixed a searchlight on the factory building, to prevent the strikers from setting fire to the sheds erected for the new hands. During the continuance of the strike this light was used nightly, in conjunction with the police established in the works, to scour the country and to illuminate the parts where pickets were placed. It was found so effective that a large number of temporary police were dispensed with.

SPEAKING OF Hertz's experiments and of electrical radiation in general, in *The Physical Review*, Dr. A. G. Webster deprecates the present popularity of the subject. He says: "The ether is a favorite subject of conversation and of publication by authors whose knowledge of mathematics is of the most rudimentary character. This is one of the unfortunate results of the existence of fashions in science, and of the attempt at popularization of difficult subjects by such men as Kelvin and Lodge." "Not," it is added, "that the reviewer wishes to discourage popularization, but that it has its disadvantages. One has only to pick up a newspaper or magazine article with the heading Tesla to see an example."

"WHAT we ought to do," says *The Hospital*, "is to take measures to insure the prompt slaughtering of all cattle which are 'obviously tuberculous'; and the most certain means of effecting this object would be to offer reasonable compensation for every animal thus killed in the interests of the public. That done there would only remain the discovery and isolation of those apparently healthy animals which are really in the early stage of tuberculosis. . . . Bovine tuberculosis is a real danger to the community. . . . Tho it is not a danger which justifies panic, it is yet so important as to demand legislative action."

REGARDING the much prophesied "passing of the horse," *The Railway Age*, Chicago, November 22, speaks as follows: "The Horseless Age is the decidedly premature title of a new monthly periodical. The recent 'motor-cycle' fiasco at Chicago, where, instead of a hundred or so self-propelled vehicles of various sorts that were to compete madly over a hundred-mile course, only a single one, a clumsy carriage built in France, managed to lumber around to the goal, showed the horse is very far from being superseded for purposes of both pleasure and work."

THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

FRANCIS SCHLATTER AND THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

THE fact that Francis Schlatter, the alleged miracle-worker, is about to transfer the scene of his operations from Denver to Chicago, gives renewed occasion for the discussion of this mysterious personage. The general attitude of the religious press toward Schlatter is one of reserve. No question is raised as to the man's sincerity, and it is generally admitted that he has actually performed some wonderful cures. One exception should be noted in *The Lutheran Observer*, of Philadelphia. This paper had an investigation made by its Colorado correspondent, who reported that the whole matter was a rank delusion if not a positive fraud. But such papers as *The Christian Evangelist*, of St. Louis, speak kindly of Schlatter and advise their readers to suspend judgment concerning him until something further is known as to the results of his work. The last-named journal says that Schlatter really has "a power of some kind, tho just what it is and whence it comes is not known." *The Western Christian Advocate* speaks of seeing scores of cripples and sick folk on their way to Denver. It says that the spectacle was "a pitiful one," but it expresses no positive opinions on the claims of the healer. *The Congregationalist* has devoted more space to the subject than any other religious paper, printing two long letters from a Denver correspondent who was commissioned to make a painstaking investigation. The latest letter in *The Congregationalist* reviews Schlatter's career in Denver down to the time of his recent temporary disappearance. This letter concludes as follows:

"Through all his public career there runs a thread of the same spirit that has animated all the world's benefactors, of tremendous faith and will, of simple unworldliness and of unselfish devotion. It is this thread of sweet reasonableness amid much unreason, that has given him his hold on the popular imagination, and that makes him and his work a worthy, tho disappointing, study. For to any who may have had larger hopes, his work is a disappointment—not because there have been no cures. If you could trust the crowd of patients and onlookers at the scene of his labors, there have been cures by the score and hundred, all, however, unconfirmed, except by vehement assertion. The whole question of cures has become, for lack of consistent investigation, an inextricable tangle of assertions and denials, of reported recoveries and relapses, of silly credulity and equally silly skepticism. Yet I have over the signature of a local physician here the statement of the radical cure of one of his patients afflicted with blindness and a paralyzed arm from brain lesion, that is, to say the least, sufficiently categorical to be amazing. And from any point of view there is no reason to doubt that there have been many cures. The implications of it all, as illustrating the control of mind over matter, the unexplored relation of the brain not only to dynamic diseases, but to certain derangements that appear structural, are of great interest. But all this for the present may be set on one side.

"The whole work is a disappointment, because, as it goes on, it appears that it is directed to no moral end. It is accompanied by no teaching, is attended by no moral or spiritual stimulus for its objects. Its final cause appears to be the temporary alleviation of physical pain. This is, of course, a reasonable and worthy aim, but, standing alone, it robs the work of any such moral significance as some had hoped it might possess. Such cures are a poor travesty of those wrought occasionally by faith in God, when all human aids had failed, the infallible note of which is an accompanying spiritual revival that transcends in wonder and importance any merely physical recuperation. Such cures—those know who have ever had them within their circle of observation—inevitably cause the beholder to glorify God, in forgetfulness of any human medium. Not so here. The popular apprehension of Schlatter's work is of a non-moral wonder-working. Such a phenomenon may be of deep interest scientifically, but it wholly lacks the divine fire that made Peter's wonder-working a consuming flame for the moral and spiritual ills of those to whom he ministered."

FUNCTION OF THE MINISTRY.

WHAT is the function of the ministry? *The Outlook* says that whoever believes that the Christian Church possesses any unity, that it is anything else than a mere series of accidental organizations, must also believe that there is a special function to be filled by the minister in that church; and if we ask what that function is, we ought to get light upon the question from the practise and teaching of the New Testament. If we turn to the life of Christ, says the writer, we find that He was not in the priestly order and that He never performed priestly offices; that He definitely refused to perform judicial functions when asked to do so; that He declared that His Kingship was not political in its character, that His authority was that of a teacher of truth, and that when asked to punish men for wrongdoing He declined, affirming that His mission was to save men's lives, not to destroy them. And if we pass from Christ to the Apostles, we find Paul declaring that he was not sent to baptize, nor to interest and entertain men by the graces of oratory, nor to satisfy the Greek demand for a comprehensive system of philosophy. And Peter, whose successor claims the divine right to govern the church, affirms in explicit language that he has no such authority. After denying the priestly function of the minister, the writer proceeds:

"He is not sent to govern, either in state or in church. Whether individuals or parties come before him, he may reply, with Christ, 'Who set me to be a judge over you?' He makes a mistake if he endeavors to carry his ministerial authority into the realm of politics. His kingdom is not of this world; it is a kingdom of truth, and he that is of the truth heareth his voice. When ministers have undertaken to control the political administration of the world, they have made a poor business of it—and this whether they were Roman Catholic priests in medieval Europe, or Presbyterian elders in the Barebones Parliament, or Episcopal bishops in the House of Lords, or Congregational clergy in the Puritan hierarchy of New England. It is true that the minister is also a private citizen, and as a private citizen may take his part in political discussions, but even this he would better do cautiously, if at all. He has a grander service than that of reforming society, namely, regenerating it. To inspire a higher spirit of justice, purity, and patriotism in men of all parties is a nobler service than to shape the political platform or influence the political nominations of any one party.

"And as he is not appointed to govern in the state, so neither is he appointed to govern in the church. He is not a lord over God's heritage; he is not to be called master, nor is he ever to forget that he who is the greatest is the servant of all. Nor is this any real self-abnegation. Influence is more valuable than power. Pilate and Caiaphas had power, one in the state, the other in the church; and the state and church where they respectively ruled are both disintegrated. Christ had influence; it survived His death and has created new states and a new church. Power belongs to the form of organization, and perishes when the form changes; influence is vital, and is as immortal as life itself.

"Neither is the minister appointed to attract congregations by eloquent orations. He may employ the skill of the rhetorician and of the elocutionist if he likes, but the success of his ministry does not depend upon either. The great orators have given to the world but a few orations each in a lifetime. Those of Demosthenes, Cicero, Pitt, or Webster may be comprised, each of them, in a single volume. Nothing could be more absurd than for a congregation to expect fifty-two orations a year from its preacher, except for the preacher to expect to satisfy such a desire. The ambition of eloquence is fatal to ministerial success. The preacher is the father of his people, and the interest which a group of children take in their father's familiar talk does not depend upon his oratorical abilities.

"Nor, finally, is the preacher a professor of theology. It is not his function to furnish a complete and systematic philosophy of the universe; he is not to commend spiritual truth by exhibiting it as part of a system labeled and ticketed. He is a preacher of religion, not a teacher of theology; he is not to define God, but to proclaim Him: not to define forgiveness, but to declare it; not

to expound a theory of inspiration, but to furnish inspiration to a people discouraged and depressed. The world is not to be saved by theologies either new or old, but by the living God immanent in the hearts of His children."

MOHAMMEDANISM AND THE GREEK CHURCH.

IN its endeavor to crush out all form of worship except that prescribed by the Orthodox Church, the Russian Government meets with a good deal of opposition. The Protestants in the Baltic provinces offer least resistance, as they regard resistance useless. The Catholics in the West, and the Sectarrians in Central and Southern Russia, passively resist for a time, but coercion in most cases does its work. The Mohammedans in the Caucasian provinces, however, not only stolidly refuse to become converted to the Greek Church, but they also show that they are willing to resist coercion by force of arms. The Holy Synod is all the more alarmed at this, as the Mohammedans proselytize among the members of the Orthodox Church. The *Danziger Zeitung*, Danzig, says:

"The coercive means by which the conversion of the Catholics is brought about is ineffective with the Mohammedans. On the other hand, the propaganda of Islamism is steadily advancing in the Eastern provinces. Education has done much to bring this about, especially among the Tartars. Since they have learned to read, they are influenced by printed and written tracts. A secret organization serves the interests of Mohammedanism in Russia, and the clergy keep up a lively intercourse with such centers of Mohammedan learning as China, Bucharia, and Cairo. The Mecca pilgrims also exercise much influence, both over their co-religionists and such members of the Orthodox Church as reveal discontent with their faith. The Mecca pilgrims have brought to Russia the doctrine of a future Messiah, a Mahdi who will be stronger than even the Czar."

What is the cause of this discontent with the church of which the Czar is the acknowledged head? A writer in the *Christliche Welt*, Leipsic, endeavors to give an explanation. He says:

"At Odessa, some time ago, a case of assault was tried. Two peasants had quarreled about religion, and the one who claimed that God was superior to St. Nicholas was maltreated. This is a specimen of Russian religion. When the compulsory conversion of the Protestant Livonians to the Orthodox Church took place, an Orthodox prelate expressed his surprise that the Protestants objected: For had not Luther at one time been the Court preacher of Catherine of Russia? This may serve as a specimen of theological training in Russia. Once Czar Nicholas I. took part in a religious service at Warsaw in which, according to custom, the worshiper was to kiss the hand of the officiating priest. The latter in his confusion failed to offer his hand. Thereupon the Emperor cried out: 'Give me your hand, you dog, I want to kiss it.' That is characteristic of Russian Church life."

"The Russian Church is a mixture of barbarian *naïveté*, the lifeless formality of the Byzantine age, and a wilderness of confused ideas. To the Russian, the man who refuses to give to a beggar is not a Christian. On the other hand he will hang a cloth before his saint's image, and then enter upon a carousal that would disgrace a beast. Again, the typical Russian will strike the floor of the church fifty times with his forehead, and repeat two hundred times the words 'O Lord, have mercy on me!' And then he will go and swear a false oath for a drink of whisky. 'For does not God Himself accept a bribe?' By which is meant that God will accept so many wax candles and paternosters as atonement for sins. The Russian, too, is a fatalist. Everything, whether the result of one's own doing or not, is, in his opinion, 'God's will.' The curse of the Russian Church is its moral sterility; it has no regenerative and productive power."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

THE missionaries who fell at Ku-Cheng in August last are to be commemorated at Fu-Chau. The European merchants and others are subscribing to a fund, and the memorial will take the form of the figure of an angel with folded hands holding a bunch of lilies. A stone will be placed at the head of each grave and a bronze tablet will be erected in the foreign-community church at Fu-Chau.

SPIRITUALISM RAMPANT IN PARIS.

THAT an excess of skepticism or unbelief always brings a reaction toward superstition is a well-known fact in the history of religions. This reaction is now being experienced in France, which has acquired a reputation for being the most irreligious of all countries. If we are to believe Jules Bois, who writes a long article on the subject of "Miracles at Paris" to *Le Figaro* (October 12), that country is now on the return swing of the pendulum, which is just at present bearing her through a spasmodic interest in spiritualism. Says M. Bois:

"We must say this much in justice to spiritualism, it has been the first to raise the standard of revolt against the materialism in which we are wallowing. M. Zola has perhaps created the symbolist school by the excess of his naturalism. Spiritualism is a much deeper reaction against the atheism of Proudhon, the scepticism of Renan, the braggings of Büchner. I know that crazy people have been mixed up in it, but there are weak heads everywhere. In fact it has been the consolation and the pleasure of the highest minds. Mme. de Girardin passed the last years of her life in the company of Mme. de Sévigné, of Sappho, of Molière, of Sedaine, of Shakespeare. Auguste Vacquerie, in his '*Miettes de l'Histoire*,' relates that at Jersey he made the tables talk on the shores of the sea. 'I believe in spirits as firmly as I do in donkeys,' he affirmed. For him, the scale of beings reached from man to the sky, as from man to the abysses of the earth. . . . Victorien Sardou, thanks to the spirits, amused himself with making little palaces on paper with musical notes. Flammarion renewed the science of the heavens with these studies. M. Jules Lormina refreshed his imagination with them, and M. Gilbert Augustin-Thierry, in many romances, exalts reincarnation, that spiritualistic dogma."

"In our days the movement has grown in innumerable directions. The painters, usually so material, have set to work to reproduce the miracles. M. Odilon Redon, in his lithographs, recreates the terror of the wandering ghosts. M. James Tissot puts his talent at the service of the 'materializations' of phantoms. Count Antoine de La Rochefoucauld, yet more subtle, seizes the angelic soul at the moment when it leaves the body, in the state of ecstasy. M. Vatore Bernard draws harpies; M. Phillippe-Charles Blache surprises the melancholy spirit at the threshold of the invisible; M. Henry de Malvest invokes the devil himself with his pencil. . . . The celebrated musician, Mlle. Auguste Holmes, receives messages from the beyond; the poetess, Mme. Zola-Dorian, hears the voice of the invisible. What shall I say? The boulevard itself forgets to rail, or rather dares not. On the Tortoric terrace M. Aurelien Scholl relates to me the prodigies of Home, who altered the hour on a clock without touching it, and Maurice Montigut still shivers at the recollection of his juvenile experience at table-turning."

"M. Paul Adam has suffered for more than a year from the assault of a ghost, who gives him troublesome advice. At the house of the Baroness Deslandes we see spirits writing and rapping. . . . The modern chiefs of the state have, it appears, the same love of miracles as the emperors and kings of the Middle Ages, who lived in the company of astrologers, sorcerers, and alchemists. The correspondent of *The Daily News* having asked of President Carnot his religious belief, the latter answered that he was a disciple of Allan Kardec, but that he adhered to the Catholic religion for state reasons. And every one knows of the tears shed by Queen Victoria over the death of the medium who had given her the opportunity of talking with the Prince Consort."

After filling a couple of columns with stories of Parisian ghosts, mediums, table-turnings, and rappings, all in the good old style, M. Bois closes with the following reflections:

"Unfortunately the majority of the spirits are too simple; sometimes they are even ignorant and superstitious. On how many of their communications do the asses' ears of King Midas appear. One of their apostles, who is possessed of a wise and inspired intellect, M. Bouvery, confesses to me that in certain *séances* they go so far as to punish the spirits. Spiritualism to be born anew must undergo the ordeal of the phoenix. To-day, rebaptized in America as 'the new spiritualism,' disembarassed of its old errors, it attempts, in the hands of savants such as William Crookes, Aksakoff, Richet, De Rochas, Gibier, Baraduc,

and Dariex, to furnish experimental proof of the survival of the ego. If the soul survives, what a source of resignation for the suffering, what a balm for the wounds of society! I know of no generous intellect capable of a lack of interest in so great an undertaking."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

EXCLUSION OF WOMEN FROM CHURCH COUNCILS.

THE exclusion of women from church councils and other offices is the subject of a paper by Miss Frances E. Willard in *The Independent*. Miss Willard, it will be recalled, was one of the three women delegates elected to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1888, who after a stormy discussion were refused admission. Miss Willard remembers with what "whimsical sensations" she once witnessed in a New Jersey church the following spectacle: The pastor was concluding the anniversary exercises of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society, whose officers meekly sat in one of the front pews. Their auxiliary had raised more money that year than the parent board of the men-people. The pastor went to the woman president, and with a polite bow took her address from her hand, ascended to the pulpit, and read it to the congregation. He then descended to the official pew, secured the manuscript of the lady secretary, mounted to the pulpit, and read it; descended again, possessed himself of the report of the treasurer, mounted to his high place and read, while the women sat by with downcast faces. "The pastor seemed in high spirits," says Miss Willard, "and the audience perfectly unaware of the absurdity of the performance at which they were assisting." She continues:

"But, after all, it was no more out of taste—it struck a note no more dissonant from the sweet, broad spirit of the Gospel than the average service, not of the Catholic Church and its shadow, the Episcopal, which have ruled women out from the service of the house of God, even banishing them from the choir, but of the 'dissenting congregations,' as they are called in England, and the great 'denominations' of America.

"I was present in a Congregational church recently where the service was conducted by the pastor, six deacons, and a chorus, and the only woman I saw who had the slightest participation in the service (and I wondered that even so much was allowed) was the janitress who, when an infant was to be baptized, brought forward from the rear of the house a bowl of water for the purpose. It is the same in all the great synods and conferences. Women may work and weep, but they may not share the deliberations of their brethren concerning that household of faith of which they form more than one half and to which they give their uttermost devotion."

But Miss Willard thinks that perhaps the most unreasoning illustration of traditional prejudice was the action of the Wesleyan Conference recently held in England. Concerning this she says:

"Last year the third London district synod elected Miss Dawson, of the Redhill circuit, as a representative, and her presence in the Birmingham Conference opened the general question, never before considered, as to whether women were eligible as representatives to the National Conference. A committee was appointed to consider the question and to report this year. A carefully worded resolution in favor of the admission to the conference of women duly elected as representatives was agreed to by the committee, and the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes proposed that this finding of the committee be approved; and that thus the doors should be opened to women. He urged that women had rendered invaluable service in every branch of Methodism; it even appeared that Wesley himself authorized women to preach; they admitted women to every other court in Methodism, and why not the supreme court—the Conference itself? The venerable Dr. Jenkins declared that the proposals submitted 'amounted to a revolution in their constitution!' Other speakers followed, and in the end the Conference was prevented from expressing an opinion on the merits of the case by the carrying of the previous question; and thus a decision is postponed. This is the statement of a min-

ister who was present. The Conference was composed of ministers and laymen in equal numbers—480 in all; and I am glad to be able to say that the majority against taking action on the question of the admission of women was but eighteen.

"The same question is pending in the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States, representing a membership of nearly three millions. There is every reason to believe that the decision will be in favor of women, and thus the greatest church of modern times will take its place at the head of the procession of justice; for I will not call it a question of progress or of tolerance; it is simply an act of plain, common justice to admit women to a share in the counsels of every branch of that church militant of God of which to-day they form the solid phalanx, the faithful militia, and the imperial 'old guard.'"

PREACHING ON SOCIAL TOPICS.

RECURRING election and kindred seasons bring into prominence a large number of pulpits in which a prelude, or a part, if not all, of the sermon is devoted to the discussion of social and economic questions. Referring to this fact, the *New York Observer* goes on to say that in not a few pulpits in the more democratic denominations the Sabbath discourse savors largely of political declamation; that consideration of the great question of man's duty to God gives place to discussions of the best methods of social and political reform; that greater prominence is given to the means of securing for the wage-earner the maximum of wage and the maximum share of leisure than to the call to man to believe in God. The writer further says:

"Denunciation of the evils of capital and the inequalities of taxation takes the place of denunciation of unrighteousness. No doubt the motive for this departure from the true uses of the pulpit is in most instances a high one. The desire of every religious leader to bring the masses under the influence of religion is, if he be true to his calling, exceedingly strong. The message of the Gospel is primarily to the poor, and love for and desire to help them is inseparable from any response to Christ's teaching. 'He that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?' But the temptation common to all ministers is to gain the desired end by showing the masses that religion is their friend in the sense in which they understand friendship—the material sense—and so teaching them to regard spiritual truth largely in the light of a temporal aid. A still stronger temptation is to bring the masses to regard as their special advocates the ministers of Him whose heart was always moved by the sufferings of the poor. Both these temptations are fraught with danger to the religious life. With the growth of democracy, the masses are now the rulers and wield the influence and attract the deference pertaining to power. In this condition, it is almost impossible that the high motive animating the minister should not be modified or lost in the lower motive—the desire to lead and direct the ultimate depositories of political power. Indeed, so easily in our poor human nature does a low motive supersede a high one, that the religious leader may in his desire to make himself an advocate of the masses, in order to bring them under the influence of religion, almost unconsciously lose sight of that object in the advancement of his own fame or interest."

The writer argues that in associating spiritual truth with material aid the temptation is constantly to make "undue concessions to the masses;" that while it is true that we live in a world where necessity seems supreme, and that it is the common interest of all to find out where necessity presses the hardest, and the best means of alleviating it, to encourage the masses to believe that eternal truth is inseparable from temporal aid, and that acceptance of spiritual verities will supply knowledge and foresight, is simply disastrous. To quote again:

"What the poor need to learn is that moral and material law are separate; that no positiveness of religious conviction can prevent the man who spends more than he earns from coming to poverty. They know this in individual life perfectly well, and to teach them that acceptance of religion will deliver them from the invariable sequences of material laws is to deprive them of the

warning of which they stand in most need. Moreover, moral truth is eternal, while material truth is temporal and applicable to only an insignificant proportion of man's whole existence. When the pulpit addresses the masses from the point of view of those to whom this life is all, it loses the chief source of its strength and becomes a mere preacher of philanthropy. The great needs of the time are the call of the pulpit to men to love God, and the call of the materialists to men to recognize the inexorable sequences of natural laws. But there is danger that the latter is being given prominence to the exclusion of the first. Nothing can be more unfortunate; for while a philanthropy which rejects all belief in God can be of aid to men in this life, the good it can render them is infinitesimal compared to that rendered by one who consistently preaches that this life is but an insignificant part of eternity, and that when it ends moral law will be supreme. In this world that law does not interfere with the sequences of material laws. For the pulpit to encourage belief that it may or does, is a confusion of messages which can only work evil."

SAMPLE OF MISSIONARY LIFE IN FORMOSA.

ONE is easily convinced by reading Rev. George Leslie Mackay's account of his twenty-three years' missionary work in the island of Formosa, that the evangelist who goes there needs as much pluck as grace. In relation to the heathenism of Formosa, Mr. Mackay says, in his book, "From Far Formosa" (Fleming H. Revell Co.), that the original element of the island was Confucianism; centuries after, Taoism was added, and then from India Buddhism was brought; that these three systems existed side by side until the dividing-walls began to crumble, and now the three are run together—a mingling of conflicting creeds degrading the intellect, defiling life, and destroying all religious sentiment. It seems that the Chinese in Formosa have innumerable gods and goddesses, many strange religious festivals, and countless superstitions. The following extract gives some idea of the condition of the island spiritually:

"The names of their idols would fill pages, and the details of their beliefs and worship volumes. There are gods having authority over each of the various powers of nature, departments of industry, relationships of life, states of feeling, physical conditions, and moral sentiments. Some have been worshiped for centuries; others are of recent date. Some are universal, receiving the adoration of all classes throughout the Chinese empire; others are local or special, and are revered only in particular localities or by certain orders. The origin of the worship of many of the idols is a mystery, but modern instances are suggestive. In 1878 a girl living not far from Tamsui wasted away and died, a victim of consumption. Some one in that neighborhood, more gifted than the rest, announced that a goddess was there, and the wasted skeleton of the girl immediately became famous. She was given the name of Sien-luniu ('Virgin Goddess'), and a small temple was erected for her worship. The body was put into salt and water for some time, and then placed in a sitting position in an armchair, with a red cloth around the shoulders and a wedding-cap upon the head; and seen through the glass, the black face, with the teeth exposed, looked very much like an Egyptian mummy. Mock money was burned and incense-sticks laid in the front. Passers-by were told the story, and as they were willing to worship anything supposed to have power to help or harm, the worship of the new goddess began. Before many weeks hundreds of sedan-chairs could be seen passing and repassing, bringing worshipers, especially women, to this shrine. Rich men sent presents to adorn the temple, and all took up the cry of the new goddess."

A few years ago the most lawless region in North Formosa was round about Sa-kak-eng, the people of which town lived in terror of a band of highwaymen who had their headquarters in the mountains near by. Mr. Mackay gives the following as an incident of his experience in that region:

"The banditti would form a company and march into the town, singing boastfully, with a wild kind of a yell,

'Lin kho koa;
Goan kho soa;

which means, 'You trust the mandarins; we trust the mountains.' I had very great difficulty in gaining entrance into Sa-kak-eng, and when the chief of a strong clan gave me a room in the rear of his shop there were loud threats of dragging us to the hills, gagging us, and gouging out our eyes. So violent was the opposition that I had to change my quarters to the outskirts of the town. The mob often surrounded the building, and once when A Hoa and I came out of the door a howl was raised, and a large flat stone flung by a man near by grazed the top of my head, and, striking against the wall, was broken into three pieces. Neither of us flinched, but, turning round, I picked up the pieces of stone as mementos of the day. One of the pieces weighed three pounds; another I brought as a contribution to the museum in Knox College, Toronto. Several months afterward, on entering the chapel, I saw a man lying on a bench. He rose to his feet, and, bowing low, said, 'Will you forgive me?' He then confessed that he was the man who threw the stone, and that his intentions were to put an end to my life. For the next three months he was with the native preacher every day, and before the year closed he passed away rejoicing in the hope of salvation through Christ. Sa-kak-eng is quite a changed place. The desperadoes have been scattered, their forest-retreats cleared and cultivated, chapel buildings purchased, prejudices against converts and preachers overcome, and every year marks progress. On our last visit we were escorted in high honor to the next chapel, four miles away, a band of music leading the procession."

PRAYER-MEETING KILLERS.

THERE is a class of people (says *The Christian Herald*) who roam the land making fearful havoc. They sound no war-whoop, but their track is marked by devastation. They are "that class of persons who go from church to church charged with the mission of talking religious meetings to death." The writer says:

"One of the chiefs of this barbarian tribe of prayer-meeting killers is the expository man. He is very apt to rise with a New Testament in his hand, or there has been some passage that during the day has pressed heavily on his mind. It is probably the first chapter of Romans, or some figurative passage from the Old Testament. He says, for instance: 'My brethren, I call your attention to Hosea, 7th and 8th: "Ephraim is a cake not turned." You all know the history of Ephraim. Ephraim was—ah—well! He was a man mentioned in the Bible. You all know who he was. Surely no intelligent audience like this need to be told who Ephraim was. Now, the passage says that he was a cake not turned. There are a good many kinds of cake, my brethren! There is the Indian cake, and the flannel cake, and the buck-wheat cake. Now, Ephraim was a cake not turned. It is an awful thing not to be turned. My friends, let us all turn!'

"It sometimes happens that this undesirable character confines himself to the meetings of his own church. Interesting talkers are sometimes detained at home by sickness; but his health is always good. Others dare not venture out in the storm; but all the elements combined could not keep him from his place. He has the same prayer now that he has used for the last twenty years. There is in it an allusion to the death of a prominent individual. You do not understand who he means. The fact is, he composed that prayer about the time that General Jackson died, and he has never been able to drop the allusion. He has a patronizing way of talking to sinners, as much as to say: 'Ho! you poor, miserable scalawags, just look at me, and see what you might have been!'

"The land is strewn with the carcasses of prayer-meetings slain by these religious desperadoes. They have driven the young people from most of our devotional meetings. How to get rid of this affliction is the question with hundreds of churches. We advise your waiting on such persons, and telling them that, owing to the depraved state of public taste, their efforts are not appreciated. If they still persist, tell them they must positively stop or there will be trouble. As you love the church of God, put an end to their ravages. It is high time that the nuisance was abated."

It may not be generally known that the prohibition against foreign Jews settling in Palestine is still in full force. Foreign Jews are only admitted to Palestine for thirty days to allow them to visit the holy places. When they land at Jaffa they must produce a respectable Turkish subject to guarantee that they will leave the country in thirty days, otherwise they may not land.

FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

THE VANDERBILT-MARLBOROUGH MARRIAGE.

FOR years no royal marriage has been commented upon so much as the union between two comparatively unimportant individuals which recently took place in New York. The reputed wealth of the bride and the great display of this wealth at the wedding have attracted much attention abroad. The *Kladderadatsch*, foremost among the satirical publications of Berlin, praises the American papers for their loving interest in the bride. "The weight of the bride is given at 116½ pounds," says this paper, "but we suppose the bridegroom, who calculates, of course, in pounds sterling, is certain that she is somewhat heavier." The majority of Continental papers congratulate the late Miss Vanderbilt upon having become mistress of one of the finest castles in Europe. The English press, on the whole, views the marriage as a downright calamity. The display of wealth at the wedding is regarded as extremely coarse.

"Good heaven!" says *The Clarion*, London, "£80,000 for a wedding-feast! And these are the people who preach thrift to the dissolute lower orders!"

One of the most scathing comments appears in *Life*, London. *Life* is a "society paper." Its subscribers belong to a class of Englishmen who are recognized as "good society" on the Continent. In an article entitled "A Little Too Much Millionaire," that paper expresses itself as follows:

"A little less ostentation would have been better in view of the fact that the marriage was, from the outset, planned to regild the tarnished glory of Blenheim with American dollars, purchased with a ducal coronet. A section of society—only a *section*, be it noted, of that very much misunderstood entity—has chosen, of late, to receive the *nouveaux riches*, for which the women are mostly to blame. The men are not so willing to receive them in the clubs, for the simple reason that the newly enriched millionaire does not understand that a club-land is a republic, in which he can not act as if he 'bossed the entire show.' Yet the influence of the dollar is felt already in London. The city is not as well administered as most of the great provincial centers, and everybody is trying to get invitations to the houses of the rich. There is a drop in the standard of financial and commercial morality."

This ascendancy of the *nouveau riche*, colonial as well as American, is, in *Life's* opinion, due to the custom of raising to the peerage men who have done nothing that is either noble or great. Hence the paper concludes as follows:

"Infinite harm has been done to the grand principles of hereditary nobility by the wholesale manufacture, for such it must be termed, of peers who have openly purchased their titles by what are euphemistically termed their 'services to the party.' On all sides the old-world wisdom of the past which has built up this country is being set aside, and the vices of such mushroom growths as the great American Republic, which we are never tired of railing against and satirizing, are allowed to creep in and take their hold in our midst. We have had of late years more than one pitiful exhibition of the blighting influence of millionaire-worship across the Atlantic; the hideous Panama scandals of France were but another phase of the same malady. Let us beware of ourselves falling into the same slough of despond."

The St. James's Gazette points out that the movements of the Vanderbilts are recorded with a minuteness in America which would appear tiresome to European readers even in connection with persons wielding royal power.

"Who wants to know," asks that paper, "that 'Mrs. Vanderbilt and her sons went for a drive in Central Park yesterday afternoon' or that 'Mr. Vanderbilt went to his office at the station of the New York Central Railway yesterday morning, and left by train in the afternoon for Oakdale'? Glorious indeed is the ad-

vertisement that falls to the American parents-in-law of an English Duke."

The Whitehall Review regrets that "an English nobleman, inheritor of a great name, was the principal actor in this display of vulgar and ostentations snobbery," and hopes that "the lady who is now an English peeress will rise above such surroundings."

The Globe, Toronto, says:

"No nation on the earth shows the same senseless adulation and abject toadyism toward the holder of a title as the United States. This is not due to republican forms, as France and the Southern republics are exceptionally free from it. It is not, as some contend, an Anglo-Saxon characteristic, as it is not found in England nor in Canada. It seems to be the surface indication of a degeneracy which will soon be manifested in other ways."

United Ireland, Dublin, one of the few dissentient voices, thinks the Vanderbilts have greater reason to be proud of their ancestor than the Marlboroughs. That paper says of the late Commodore Vanderbilt:

"From being the owner of one vessel he came to be the owner of many more and many other kinds of property besides. He was a man of ability and spirit, and built and endowed the hospital in New York known as the 'Vanderbilt Clinic.' Few dukes, certainly not the descendant of the publicly corrupt and privately infamous John Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough, can boast of an ancestry so honest and honorable."

LORD SALISBURY ON THE SITUATION.

AT the annual Guildhall banquet, in honor of the new Lord Mayor of London, Lord Salisbury made a speech in which he spoke almost exclusively of foreign affairs. He believes that there is no cause of alarm in the development of affairs in the Far East. Turning to Armenia, the Premier declared that if the proposed reforms were carried out properly, the Armenians would become a prosperous and peaceful people. Should, however, the Sultan refuse to grant justice to the Christians, then he would suffer the consequences of his misrule, as the powers are thoroughly resolved to act together in everything concerning the Ottoman Empire. The latter assertion is regarded as a guaranty of peace for the bulk of Europe, if not for Turkey. *The Times*, London, says:

"In all the capitals of Europe Lord Salisbury's speech at the Lord Mayor's banquet has been criticized with the respect due to his high position and his unrivaled acquaintance with international politics. There is no Minister now holding office in any continental country who can claim to be Lord Salisbury's equal in point of experience and knowledge of foreign affairs. . . . In any case the powers will continue to press upon the Sultan the lesson that his security can not be guaranteed by anything short of complete and radical amendment. If it is too late for him to reform, another way out of the difficulty must somehow be discovered."

The Standard thinks Lord Salisbury has rightly expressed the opinion of all Englishmen, and adds:

"We are much mistaken if even the most luxurious and closely guarded recesses of Yildiz Kiosk have not already reverberated to the grave reminder that 'the nature of things, if you please, or the Providence of God, if you please to put it so, has determined that persistent and constant misgovernment must lead the Government that practises to its doom.'"

The Daily Chronicle thinks the Sultan has reached the close "of his unhappy and misspent days of power" unless he accepts tutelage. The majority of European papers nevertheless doubt that the Sultan will accept such terms. *The Morning Leader* accuses Lord Salisbury of an attempt to divert the attention of the public from matters of greater consequence at home. *The Leader* says:

"The fact is Lord Salisbury and his friends are bent on trying a policy of snooze at home, and in order to escape from embar-

rassing pledges with regard to agriculture, old-age pensions, Lancashire trade, and a score of other things, they will no doubt keep calling attention to the Far and the Near East. So long as these questions are of grave import, so long all Englishmen must and will be prepared to back any Minister who tries to settle them in the right way, but if Lord Salisbury thinks that an interest in foreign affairs means that nothing is wanted at home he is likely to be undeceived. The millennium is a long way off yet."

In Russia the speech appears to have made a very favorable impression, and the usual expressions of hatred against England have ceased for a while. The *Viedomosti*, St. Petersburg, says:

"The British Premier is quite right in assuming that the danger of a serious difficulty in the Far East has passed. It would be extremely Chauvinistic on the part of our people to desire the absorption of territories of which we have no need. Lord Salisbury has shown great tact, and the good relations between Russia and Great Britain, which were for the moment compromised by the false report about Port Arthur, have now been re-established."

The Italian press thinks it will be easier to restore order than to introduce the planned reforms. The *Tribuna*, Rome, adds that Italy will support England in every way, as England's help is wanted in the settlement of Italy's African and Mediterranean difficulties. The *Riforma* declares that the British Premier has expressed himself in a manner worthy of the nation which sympathizes with oppressed Christianity. Lord Salisbury has shown that English politics will be conducted in an even-tempered manner. The *Kölnische Zeitung* says:

"Our Government did rightly in refusing to interfere in the domestic disturbances of Turkey. Only when the danger of a collision between Christians and Mohammedans became evident, our Government acted, and then in thorough harmony and promptness with all the other powers. But when the life or the property of Germans is threatened, the Empire must come to their assistance. It is to be hoped that the Government will continue in its moderation."

The *Boersen Courier*, *National Zeitung*, and *Post* regard the speech as very reassuring in tone. The *Neuesten Nachrichten* fears that the assertion that Europe is determined to enforce reforms will add fresh fuel to the discontent of the Armenians. The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine*, as official organ, rather sneers at the speech. This paper says:

"The speech makes no sensational disclosures, but it is a fresh proof of Lord Salisbury's rare dexterity in the use of diplomatic language. The noble Lord speaks of the past without in the least disclosing the intentions of England, refers to the present in reassuring terms, for which he earns peculiar gratitude from his hearers, and alludes to the future in such a way that he can not be wrong in any event. The most remarkable passage is that which describes the powers as resolved to act in concert in everything where the Ottoman Empire is concerned."

The Austrian papers are satisfied that the noble Lord is right in assuming that Europe will stand united in enforcing reforms in Turkey, and that is, in view of Austria's geographical position, the main thing. The French press indicates that France means to say "No" in every case where England says "Yes." The *Journal des Débats* thinks Lord Salisbury's speech too menacing. The *Petit Journal*, whose opinion, in view of its enormous circulation—over a million daily—goes for something, says:

"France is for the independence of all other countries, and is repulsed by the plan of strangling Turkey under pretense of a Christian crusade. We can not see what place France could have in a concert in which she has no ambition to satisfy, which is discreditable and fatal to the tranquillity of nations. We must have a clear program. It is monstrous to break up Turkey without justifiable motives, and it would be very stupid on our part to lend ourselves to such a game without knowing exactly what we are about. England seeks accomplices. Are we to play into her hands?"—Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

EMPEROR WILLIAM AS KING OF ENGLAND.

CANARDS, "fish stories," and other sensations do not usually find a place in THE LITERARY DIGEST. The following communication, however, is likely to create widespread interest. Disputes about royal succession have before now convulsed great nations with civil war, and as Albert Edward, the present Prince of Wales, is very unpopular with staid and sober Englishmen, and only tolerated as the Queen's son in English society, outside of the "fast set," it is not impossible that there is trouble in store for Great Britain when Queen Victoria dies. The *Frankfurter Zeitung*, Frankfurt, says:

"We receive from a European capital (not London) the following communication. It has been sent to us in a way bordering on mystification, and its contents have been noted with much astonishment. We would regard the matter as a belated or advanced April-foolery, were it not that the form and tone of the manuscript prove that the writer is very much in earnest. Besides, we know that some most curious political sects in Great Britain and elsewhere uphold the most remarkable ideas. The Jacobites, for instance, who to this day defend the rights of the Stuarts against the usurpers of the Hanoverian-English dynasty, are no single exception. We give the communication as a curiosity, but wish to point that it may possibly indicate the existence of a deeply hidden current, whose aims can not yet be determined. The communication runs as follows:

"Many people will be astonished to hear of an English Succession question, yet it exists. The Prince of Wales was born in 1841; his sister, the Empress Frederick, was born in 1840. As a rule it is thought that sons have precedence of daughters in the heirship of thrones. But in England this is not the case. The laws of succession in the Royal Family, as far as there are any, make no difference between sons and daughters, but speak of children only. This sensational discovery must be credited to the late historian Froude, and the most enthusiastic defenders of this idea are, in England, Lord Lonsdale, Lord Methuen, and last, but not least, the celebrated writer and publisher, William T. Stead, of *The Review of Reviews*. The latter points out that England has ever been greater under her queens than under her kings, and Victoria II. would be very popular. Curiously enough, however, the Princess Royal is likely to decline the honor, probably because, after her death, the crown would go to her eldest son, Emperor William II., and because she thinks it impossible to unite the two gigantic empires. She has, therefore, declared that the crown should go to her younger son, Prince Henry of Prussia. Emperor William II., however, will insist upon getting his rights as eldest child of the eldest child, and as such he is the legitimate heir, and no one else. He is convinced that a union of the two empires would be of advantage not only to Great Britain and Germany, but to the whole world. Emperor William is certainly not the kind of man that will allow his rights to be infringed, but he has tact enough not to mention the matter during the life of his grandmother. Perhaps it will now be understood what he meant when he said that *the German army and the German navy will one day cross the ocean*.* Until recently Froude's discovery was known to few persons, but Mr. Stead will undoubtedly take care to make the idea popular. At any rate, when Queen Victoria I. dies—which may God prevent for many years—England will experience great surprises."

We have given a verbal translation of this extraordinary communication, because the English papers have only given an extract which makes it appear as if Germany and her Emperor intend to threaten Great Britain. The German papers as yet choose to apply the principle of *totschweigen* to this communication; that is, they mean to kill it by silence.—Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

QUEEN MARIA CHRISTINA of Spain left a fortune of \$40,000,000 at her death. Her next of kin, ex-Queen Isabella and the Infanta Luise Fernande on the one side and the children of the Duke of Riansares on the other wrangled over the division of this fortune and went to law. Now, after twenty years, they have come to an arrangement outside of the courts, but the lawyers have left them only 5 per cent. of the original sum to divide.

* When the Emperor said this, Americans asked whether he meant to threaten this continent.—ED. THE LITERARY DIGEST.

VINDICATIONS OF VENEZUELA.

THE rumor that Germany has been asked to arbitrate between Great Britain and Venezuela has directed public attention in Germany to this dispute. Americans will be interested to hear that the Germans, who can not possibly be said to favor the Monroe doctrine, regard England as in the wrong. This opinion is also held by the celebrated geographer, Prof. W. Sievas, in Giessen. He expresses himself as follows:

"The disputed territory is situated between 61st meridian W. and the Rio Essequibo, and belonged, with the exception of a small part of the coast, to the former Spanish province of Caracas, of which Venezuela must be regarded heir. In 1836 the colony Guayana (the English spelling Guiana is wrong) acknowledged the Pomeran River, west of the Essequibo, as boundary. In 1838 the British Government asked and obtained permission of Venezuela to erect lighthouses at the mouth of the Orinoco. In 1842 the British boundary marks which Schomburgk erected in 1841 had to be removed upon protest on the part of Venezuela. In 1844 Lord Aberdeen proposed a line favorable to England, which was, however, rejected by Venezuela. In the mean time gold was discovered upon Venezuelan territory, the output being, until 1893, 51,250,000 bolivares (\$10,250,000). Since then the English slowly advanced upon Venezuelan territory; getting bolder with every revolution that weakened the republic."

In summing up, Professor Sievas says:

"1. During the first half of the nineteenth century the now disputed territory was recognized as Venezuelan by the British Government, for an Englishman who committed a murder in 1840 near the Moroco River was sentenced by Venezuelan courts.

"2. Not the Venezuelans are anxious to obtain the auriferous district, for they have it already, but the English.

"3. The Venezuelans will only be defending their rights if they remove encroaching Englishmen and send troops to the territory. It is not England whose patience is exhausted, but Venezuela."

The Consul-General of Venezuela in Berlin has published a declaration in which it is asserted that England has continually advanced her frontiers, so that now she claims over 280,000 square kilometers, where only 72,000 are due to her. When Venezuela complained of these encroachments, the English always declared themselves willing to accept a "suitable" boundary line, that is, one which exclusively suits Great Britain. The Barnes incident is described as a most flagrant violation of peace in the German papers. The *Echo*, Berlin, says:

"A few years ago the English established a frontier guard on the right bank of the Cuyuni, opposite a spot where the Venezuelans had a small military post. Another picket of twenty men is stationed a little higher up the river. Last Christmas the men of this picket wanted to celebrate the day with their comrades of the larger garrison, and left their station, which was immediately taken possession of by an English squad led by Inspector Barnes. The Venezuelans, upon their return, arrested the English, and sent them to Ciudad Bolivar, whence they were sent home. This is looked upon by the English as an insult to the British flag, for which they demand \$75,000. The Venezuelan Government, of course, took no notice of this demand, and now England has sent an ultimatum."

The *Tageblatt*, Berlin, says that Germany is not in a hurry to accept the thankless task of arbitrator in this question. Freiherr (Lord) Marschall has, however, informed the Emperor that some German interests are involved in the question. Much German capital is invested in the United States of Venezuela. — *Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

THE following is related by Canon MacColl as a sample of Turkish generosity: "It was announced last summer that the Sultan had generously contributed £2,000 for the relief of the surviving inhabitants of the villages destroyed by his own troops acting under his orders, the officer who presided over the massacre having afterward been decorated by his humane Majesty. What the Sultan really did was to send orders to the governor of the district to find the money. The governor, knowing how to please his master, taxed the Armenian Christians for the amount of his Majesty's generous contribution, not a shilling of which went back to the Armenians. Truly a Turkish way of helping the needy and getting credit for benevolence."

SOCIALIST SUNDAY-SCHOOLS AND SOCIALIST MORALITY.

THE English Socialists, like their German *confrères*, hope to advance their cause by teaching children in Communistic schools. They base their hope upon the assumption that the teaching of Socialist tenets will have at least as much influence upon the young mind as the teaching of Christianity through the Bible. They are giving much attention to the subject of Sunday-schools. In *Justice*, London, we find an account of how Socialist Sunday-schools ought to be managed. It is based upon the experience obtained at the East London Ethical Sunday-school, at Bow. The writer says:

"School should meet at 3 p.m., an opening song should be sung, then a simple reading from the life of some good man or woman; another song, then a short text from a standard work on economics could be repeated. The E.L.E.S. has printed a number of text-cards, which could easily be adapted for this purpose. . . . An address on the life of Jesus, Luther, Darwin, Mazzini, or any of the religious heroes would enable a teacher to show why it is all their good work has still left the world a very bad place for innocent children. Then the men who were the prophets of Socialism, Robert Owen, Fourier, St. Simon, Lassalle, Marx, and others, it could be shown how these men were real prophets, and by the failures of some of them show how the work must be done. . . . There are historical subjects in abundance which can be handled so as to show how all society has been developing toward the present and how we are developing to another stage. . . . Then as to citizenship. From actual experience, I know it is possible to interest children in these matters. A simple talk on Town Councils, what they are and what they do, or Poor Law Guardians and their work; Members of Parliament; and, in fact, all representative bodies can be explained, their work pointed out, also where they fail, and what we want them to do. Then there are natural history subjects, and, in fact, in every direction there is plenty of material from which to get sound instruction for children. . . . After the address another song, the text again repeated, and a closing song ends an afternoon which ordinary children would enjoy. I have five children who attend such a Sunday-school; all except the youngest have been to other Sunday-schools, and from sheer choice prefer this one, and have so expressed their appreciation to other children that a good score of others have joined."

There are, however, some serious objections among a section of the British public against Socialist morality. In a communication by R. N. McDougall, Secretary of the London Liberty and Property Defense League, to *The Weekly Chronicle*, London, we find the following excerpts from Socialist writers:

Belfort Box, in "Outlooks from the New Standpoint," page 123: "Supposing that in Russia or elsewhere a sudden and urgent demand for party purposes arose, and that much hung on its being immediately satisfied. Supposing, again that, as a last resort, a female member of the party were, without any hypocritical pretence, to sell her body for the money, would not this be a commendable act? . . . I should say, yes."

Robert Owen says: "In the New Moral World the irrational names of husband, wife, parent, and child will be heard no more. . . . Children will undoubtedly be the property of the whole community."

Grant Allen, "The Woman Who Did:" "No man indeed is truly civilized till he can say in all sincerity to every woman of all the women he loves, to every woman of all the women who love him: 'Give me what you can of your love and yourself; but never strive for my sake to deny any love, to strangle any impulse that pants for breath within you. Give me what you can while you can without grudging, but the moment you feel you love me no more . . . don't do injustice to your own prospective children by giving them a father whom you no longer respect, or admire or yearn for. Be mine as much as you will, but before all things be your own; embrace and follow every instinct of pure love that Nature, our mother, imparted within you! No woman, in turn, is truly civilized till she can say to every man of all the men she loves, of all the men who love her: 'Give me what you can of our love and yourself, but don't think I am so vile and so selfish and so poor as to desire to monopolize you.' . . ." When

men and women can say this alike, the world will be civilized. Until they can say it truly, the world will be, as now, a jarring battle-field for monopolist instincts."

Karl Pearson, in "Socialism and Sex," page 14: "In a Socialist form of government, the sexual relation would vary according to the feelings and wants of individuals. . . . An unsanctioned birth would receive no recognition from the state; and in times of over-population it might be needful to punish, positively or negatively, both father and mother. . . . As such births may be due to ignorance or inefficiency of some check-system . . . it would be the duty of the state to scientifically investigate the whole system of checks, and to spread among its citizens a thorough knowledge of such as were harmless and efficient in practice."

W. Morris and Box in "Socialism: Its Growth and Outcome," page 9: "Even now it is necessary that a certain code of morality should be supposed to exist, and to have some relation to that religion which, being the creation of another age, has now become a sham. With this sham, moreover, its accompanying morality is also stupid . . . and this is clung to with a determination or even ferocity natural enough, since its aim is the perpetuation of individual property in wealth, in workman, in wife, in child."

What Mr. McDougall wants to know is whether "Canon Scott-Holland, Professor Shuttleworth, and Socialist parsons generally will say Amen to this?"

LORD DUNRAVEN'S ALLEGATIONS.

LORD DUNRAVEN has not earned the applause of his countrymen by the attacks he has made upon the integrity of American yachtsmen. His complaints are regarded as coming rather late, and as creating a bad feeling between the two greatest sections of English-speaking peoples. *The Westminster Gazette* says:

"It is really too bad. As if the Venezuelan business were not causing enough ill-feeling between John Bull and Cousin Jonathan, here is Lord Dunraven sowing fresh dissensions—and all for the sake of *Valkyrie*. . . . It is a curious instance of an unexpected result. International contests in the field of sport have been promoted largely as a means of furthering international amity. The way to make brothers of us all is, it has been thought, to organize Pan-Britannic gatherings and to revive the Pan-Athenaic games. 'On these fields of healthy rivalry we can all meet in friendly'—but why continue the well-known commonplaces? The reality is unhappily not always in keeping with them; and so far as international yacht-racing is concerned, it looks as if the historian of the future would have to note it as one of the most insidious sources of international feuds. . . . No sooner were Lord Dunraven's words known on the other side than the air was rent with cries of 'You're another!' and 'Take that!' The net result is that Lord Dunraven—tho, of course, he really meant nothing of the kind—nevertheless leaves the American public with an excuse for alleging that it is the practise of British sportsmen, when they lose, to slang the umpire, and even to accuse their opponents of cheating—the two things which every British schoolboy is specially in the habit of priding himself that he never does, and which Lord Dunraven himself would be the first to repudiate."

The *Newcastle Chronicle* also thinks the matter had best been consigned to oblivion, and adds: "And all this mischievous nonsense has been brought about by the desire to possess the fastest yacht! Is it not a little ridiculous?" *The St. James's Gazette* says:

"To bring up this deliberate accusation of foul play, weeks afterward, when the question can not possibly be determined, is altogether unfair. And it is deplorably injudicious and unpatriotic as well. It will make more bad blood in the United States than half a dozen Corinto and Venezuela incidents."

The Globe, London, thinks "it is greatly to be regretted that Lord Dunraven should create ill-feeling between two friendly nations by such a belated and ambiguous charge." *The Times* is

one of the few papers which keep up the assertion that American yachtsmen are unfair to their competitors. This paper says:

"The statement as a whole confirms the judgment previously come to in England on the nature of the late contest, and adds some curious and more or less important particulars to the evidence on which it was based. It does not contain anything to modify that judgment. Still less does it contain anything to lead us to hope that British competitors can again challenge for the America Cup with a reasonable prospect of a fair field and no favor. That can not be obtained until the trust deed is administered in a different spirit, and the concurrent jurisdiction of so many committees and bodies is abolished."

FOREIGN NOTES.

The South American Journal, London, tells a story which aptly illustrates how easy it is to draw profit by making use of chauvinistic patriotism. In an English country town one butcher sold only the best home products, such as Welsh mutton, best Scotch, etc., while the other made no secret that he sold Australian meat. On Saturday nights these two used almost to come to blows over their trade, and the English butcher used to come half-way across the street shaking his fist at the Australian man. It finally came out that the same man owned both shops, and sold Australian meat in both, but in one he got English prices for it. He found that this rivalry was very good for his trade, as most of the townspeople took the side of his English shop, and, seeing the keenness between the two, came from all parts of the town to support it against the Australian intruder, and cracked the English meat up immensely—that is to say, the Australian meat which they bought under the name of English."

THE town of Grottkau, in Prussia, has erected a memorial in honor of such of its citizens as were killed in the campaign of 1870-71. Twelve young ladies were to assist at the inauguration, but the idea had to be abandoned. The *Grottkauer Zeitung* prints the two following explanatory notices: (1) "The resolution of the Town Council that twelve young ladies of honor should place a garland of flowers upon the Kriegerdenkmal has been withdrawn, as the committee found it impossible to satisfy the desires of all the ladies who wished to be included in the number." (2) "I hereby notify my withdrawal from the committee for the selection of twelve young ladies of honor, and regret that I have wasted so much time upon so ungrateful and profitless a task.—Dr. Sennwitz." According to the last census in 1890, Grottkau had 43,167 inhabitants, 23,195 of whom were female.

LANCASHIRE will soon experience a marked fall in the prices of cotton goods exported to China. "German, American, and English capitalists," says *Money*, London, "are ordering machinery for setting up new works, and as many as five new cotton mills are in course of construction at Shanghai alone. These will, of course, all compete with Lancashire. In China, as in India, the keenest competitors with Lancashire are those of her own household—i.e., Lancashire firms which have started mills in the East. But if our capitalists do not embark in this enterprise, German, American, and even Japanese will, and England will, undoubtedly, be left."

THE French budget committee has declared that a further augmentation of the navy is not advisable. English papers hope that France will expend the money thus saved on the army, which would keep in check "our German cousins." The Germans, on the other hand, hope that a similar policy will be followed with regard to the army. France, they say, has led in armaments, and if she begins to curtail expenses in this direction, other nations will follow suit. As a matter of fact, there is serious opposition in France to a further increase of the army.

THE New York correspondent of the *Imparcial*, Madrid, says the Cuban question is closely bound up with the American elections. The President of the United States could do nothing better to become popular than to recognize the Cubans as belligerents. The majority of Spanish papers think that this will soon happen, but think open enmity better than clandestine favoring of the insurgents. The thirty to forty gunboats which now encircle Cuba are thought to be sufficient to keep out supplies for the rebels.

THE curse of wealth unearned lies heavily upon Portugal. This nation, whose hardy mountaineers the Romans never thoroughly subjected, who resisted the invasion of the Moors, and who gave to the world some of the most intrepid men that ever sailed the seas, became nerveless when the influx of boundless wealth from India and America encouraged sloth. To-day the Portuguese find it difficult to defend the last miserable remnants of their colonies against barbarous rebels.

UNLIKE other cities, Berlin, the German capital, is neither proud of its phenomenal growth nor anxious to absorb the neighboring townships. Charlottenburg, Rixdorf, Rummelsburg, and a dozen other places are almost enclosed by the growing city or bordering on its territory. Some of them have over 100,000 inhabitants. But the Berliners do not relish the idea of annexation, and are forced into it only by the Socialists, who hope to increase their vote in this way.

RECENTLY a henpecked husband sought divorce before a London court. "Even before my marriage," he said, "I saw enough of my wife's temper to convince me that I would become a very unhappy man. Experience has proved that I was right." "Why, then, did you marry her?" asked the judge in astonishment. "Because she would otherwise have sued me for breach of promise, and obtained a verdict for at least \$500. You will understand that I preferred a divorce. It's cheaper." The judge did understand, and relieved him of his evil.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GAMBLERS AT MONTE CARLO.

THE famous Mediterranean gambling-resort continues to draw moths to its golden flame, notwithstanding the competition of other places. In an article explanatory of the management of the notorious Casino of Monaco, in the December *Pall Mall Magazine*, Mr. John J. Waller first tells how the gambling-tables got to that place. There were tables there long before the celebrated "Père" Blanc arrived. As far back as 1853 the late Prince Charles granted a thirty years' concession to a company to carry on the business. Then the fortunes of the Grimaldis were at the ebb-tide. The affairs of Charles III. had touched the low-water mark of princely penury, and his kingdom was little more than a lair for pirates. At that time François Blanc was exploiting roulette at Homburg. But the shrewd old fellow saw trouble ahead, and turned his eyes toward Monaco. Some years before the late Emperor William decided to close all the gambling-houses in Germany, old Blanc began to prepare for the notice to quit which he got in 1870. He went to Monaco with \$340,000 and purchased the gambling rights and privileges, and thenceforward the little kingdom became the great authorized center for roulette in Europe. We quote the following concerning Blanc and the "eminence" to which his millions lifted his family:

"Père Blanc, who was a man of the French bourgeois type, simple in his habits, but clever and strong-headed in finance, died July 27, 1877, leaving a fortune of nearly seven million pounds. The spirit of *largesse* which he displayed in working all his enterprises was the secret of his success. For instance, when he heard that five millions of francs were required to complete the Paris Opera House, he pulled out his check-book and wrote an order for the amount; but, strange to say, he was the only person forgotten in the distribution of seats on the occasion of the first performance. This was, of course, an oversight of the most ironical character, and full reparation was subsequently made him. All the most celebrated artistes of the day were anxious to sing at the gorgeous theater which Garnier built for him, and streams of gold flowed into his coffers at Monte Carlo. Old Blanc never gambled himself: he simply stood by the roulette wheel and the trente-et-quarante table, confident always in his watchword: '*Rouge perd et Noir perd, mais c'est toujours Blanc qui gagne!*'" [Red loses and black loses, but white (*blanc*) always wins.]

"In all his enterprises he was supported and seconded by Mme. Blanc, who was a wonderfully shrewd business woman; and in all questions relating to the engagements of artistes for the theater or Casino, the decoration of the rooms and the entertainment of patrons of the play, she was his trusted adviser. Père Blanc left the whole of his immense fortune to her and her four children, with the exception of £20,000 which he bequeathed to the ancient church of St. Roch, in Paris, to be spent in masses for the repose of his soul! With this enormous wealth at her command Mme. Blanc was able to make a splendid display in Paris society and to obtain ambitious positions for her children. Both the daughters married princes—the hand and fortune of Marie Blanc going to Prince Roland Bonaparte, son of Prince Peter and a cousin of Napoleon III.; while the eldest daughter, Louise, became the wife of Prince Constantine Radziwill, a descendant of an old Polish family affiliated to the house of Horticus. Of the sons, Edmund Blanc has been Mayor of St. Cloud, and is again member of the Chamber of Deputies (after having had his election invalidated for spending the proceeds of his shares in Monte Carlo too freely among the peasants of his division in the Pyrenees), while Camille Blanc is a successful breeder of horses and a liberal patron of the French turf."

Mr. Waller, who is familiar with the scenes of Monte Carlo, tells some things interesting in their way, as follows:

"An exact record is kept of the profits of each table every day, but it is sufficient for our purpose to strike an average. The earnings of a roulette-table during the winter average £400 a day, and during the summer £350. For the trente-et-quarante tables

the averages are £300 and £250 a day respectively. Of course the takings at these tables vary very considerably. A plunger may walk into the rooms at any moment and have a run of luck which will not only prevent any particular table from making a profit, but force the cashier to advance more money to keep it going. This feat is erroneously called 'breaking the bank;' but, depend upon it, all such winnings find their way back again to the tables. As Père Blanc remarked: 'He who breaks the bank to-day will be broken by the bank to-morrow.' It was so with 'Lucky Chance Wells,' whose play I watched closely from day to day, and who undoubtedly won nearly £50,000 during two visits of ten days' duration: he lost not only the whole of it at two subsequent visits, but also £10,000 of the money of people whom he duped with his bogus patents. So with a well-known London money-lender, one of the best customers of the tables, who visits Monte Carlo every season. He generally plays the maximum of 12,000 francs (£480) a *coup* at trente-et-quarante, and has won large sums from time to time. He informed me, however, last winter that he was almost always a loser at the end of his stay; that he made £10,000 his limit of loss, and that during the last ten or twelve years he had left at least £100,000 upon the tables. These are only typical cases. The winner at Monte Carlo returns to make a little more; the loser returns to try to get his money back again. And so, in the end, *la banque gagne toujours!*

"Each roulette-table is given a capital of 60,000 francs (£2,400) every day at noon, with which to open the play; each trente-et-quarante table receives 100,000 francs (£4,000). Only upon rare occasions, when some heavy player is having a run of luck, is it necessary to make a second call. Wells, for instance, forced the *chef de partie* to fetch further capital no less than four times in one afternoon."

Monte Carlo is tempting bait for all blackmailers, and the most ingenious schemes are concocted for extorting money from the bank. Here is a sample:

"A little band of five Paris journalists who were down for the pigeon-shooting and racing season also conceived a plot by which they obtained £1,000 from the manager. A bomb scare was raging at the time. They bribed one or two of the night watchmen to place half-a-dozen bogus shells, with a piece of lamp-wick hanging from them, under the windows outside the building and beneath the gambling-tables in the interior. These 'engines' were found at daybreak by the 'pompiers,' and a scene of great excitement ensued. In vain did the manager try to hush up the affair: the news of an attempt to blow up the Casino spread like lightning. As soon as the doors opened *Messieurs les journalistes* went in a body to interview the manager. 'We know all about the outrage,' they said, 'and unless we receive £1,000 by four o'clock we shall send a column about it to the papers we represent.' They got the money. Their accomplices, with whom they had promised to divide, were, however, arrested, and sentenced to two years' imprisonment."

Monte Carlo has a very curious "pension" list. On it are inscribed the names of men and women who have lost their fortunes at the tables and who are allowed small sums daily for the rest of their miserable lives. Mr. Waller says:

"This practise, which was inaugurated by Père Blanc in his paternal care for the *decaisés*, is also being dropped as the *pensionnaires* die out. The pensions now paid range from five francs to forty francs a day, according to the amount which has been lost at the tables and the social position of the recipient. For instance, a tall Scotchman who is a familiar figure upon the Promenade des Anglais in Nice receives two louis per day. He lost a quarter of a million of money at roulette. He has still a small income, and the Bank therefore considers thirty shillings per day sufficient to keep this broken vessel from coming to the ground. If one could go through the whole list, what a story might be written anent each item!"

In conclusion we quote Mr. Waller concerning the suicides at Monte Carlo, as follows:

"The number has been comparatively small during the last two years—five and four respectively. This charge against the tables is always greatly exaggerated. Some writers upon Monte Carlo would have us believe that every morning at sunrise the gardens round the Casino are like a Gehenna, strewn with the

corpses of men and women who have ruined themselves at the tables the night before. . . . When talking one day to the doctor whose duty it is to examine the body of every suicide on behalf of the police of Monaco, he assured me that the number seldom exceeded half a dozen per annum. Six too many, surely; but how many people commit suicide in England every year through failure in trade and losses upon the Stock Exchange? It must be remembered that Monte Carlo represents gambling in a concentrated form, just as the Stock Exchange represents condensed speculation, and that men who are already ruined often fly to the Casino to make a final *coup*. They generally fail to retrieve their fortunes. One wonders, therefore, that the death-roll is not greater."

REFORMATORY OFFICE OF MENTAL SUGGESTION.

CERTAIN persons who have carefully watched the progress of experimental psychology in cases of seemingly confirmed criminality assert that the criminal will yield to silent mental suggestion if it is wisely applied. Among those who so believe is Mr. W. J. Colville, who contributes an article on the subject to *The Metaphysical Magazine* (November). In mentioning a few of the more familiar methods of mental suggestion, he first calls attention to the most rudimentary or external of these methods, namely, that of placing some object, such as a text or motto, within range of the vision. He says:

"Whenever mottoes are employed to influence the mind it is highly essential that they should be of the right kind; *i.e.*, they should always be of the affirmative-type. Negative sayings are calculated to do more harm than good; consequently they should be studiously avoided.

"It is not difficult to reason out the wherefore of this declaration, as we can not fail to see, if we think at all, that a suggestion to be valuable must be an assurance and an invitation, not a command or a prohibition. The former are always attractive and encouraging, while the latter are apt to be harsh and repellent. *Thou shalt not steal*, even tho it is one of the ten commandments of the Sinaitic law, is not an appropriate text wherewith to reform a thief; but *You love honesty and will practise it*, can be made to answer the purpose of reformation exactly, and this for a twofold reason. An order *not to steal* may arouse antagonism, and by provoking mental opposition success can never be gained. It does not necessarily follow that all persons are sufficiently acquainted with themselves to have become conscious of their sincere inward desire to be honest, or of their capability to be so if they wish. *You love honesty: therefore it is your will to be honest*, is a grand affirmation, complimentary to the innate goodness and strength of the individual to whom an appeal is made. The two elements of special worth in this statement are, first, that it recognizes good will; second, that it acknowledges strength as well as the disposition to put good resolutions into effect.

"We must remember that we are combating ancient, ingrained errors when we employ a method of reform through education at total variance with the primitive measures so long in vogue, and we can not afford to forget that our philosophy differs essentially from that of the purists. The commonest obstacles in the way of elevating another are his own low opinion of himself and the low opinion of him entertained by others. How often do we hear a dishonest person say, 'I could not help it; it was born in me to steal!' and it is useless to attempt to gloss over the countenance given to such an assertion by prevailing views of heredity and atavism. The true reformer must steer equally clear of the twin rocks upon which many a vessel has been wrecked—*condemnation* and *misdirected sympathy*. The practical psychologist never sympathizes with crime or even with misdemeanor; he never countenances petty larceny or any small offense, but boldly says to all: 'You can live virtuously if you will, provided you manfully undertake to carry your good will into execution.' The experimental psychologist, who knows the reformatory uses of suggestion, takes care to make an appeal so directly to the pupil's own nature that he must receive the correct impression sooner or later."

Famines in India.—"Every one knows (says the *Revue Scientifique*, October 19) that certain parts of British India are occasionally subject to disastrous famines which are themselves consequent upon exceptional drought. Mr. John Eliot has recently published an interesting work on these calamities. In 122 years there have been 17. It is impossible to estimate the total mortality that has accompanied them, and even for the more recent we have but incomplete statistics. In 1832-33, Madras, one of the districts most affected, lost 150,000 or 200,000 inhabitants from a total population of 500,000. In 1837, in Upper India, there were at least 800,000 victims, and the national loss was estimated at thirty millions. In 1860-61, in the Northwest and the Punjab, at least 600,000 head of cattle and 500,000 human beings perished. In 1865-66, at Orissa alone a million people died out of a total population of three millions. In 1688-69, in the provinces of the Northwest three million head of cattle died and about a million and a half persons. The temperature, in the shade, in certain parts of tropical India, in the month of May, before the prevalence of the southwest monsoon, reached 50° to 51° C. [122° F.]. The northeast monsoon (a dry land-wind) blows from January till May, and the southwest monsoon (a moist sea-wind) from June till December. This latter follows upon the formation of a zone of depression in the northern regions, subsequent to the extreme hot weather, and it is during this monsoon that the greater proportion of rain falls. A slight diminution in the amount of rainfall often suffices to cause the rice or millet crop to be a total failure. In the rice-producing districts the famine is most often due to a too early cessation of the rains and of the southwest monsoon."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

The "Harnessing" of Niagara.—"It is surprising," says *The Scientific Machinist*, Cleveland, October 15, "how many people have, firmly fixed in their minds the notion that the Niagara cataract has been 'harnessed' and made to do duty like the little waterfall from the mill-race. Standing at a point which commands a good view of Horseshoe Falls, a squad of visitors were recently gazing at the great white sheet through the cloud of mist, among them a representative of this publication. After scrutinizing the Falls thoroughly, both with naked eye and field-glass, one of the group—an Illinois lawyer, prominent in the district he resides in, said, with a puzzled look on his face: 'Where are the wheels? I don't see any.'

"'Of course you can't see them,' said a Massachusetts merchant, with a thoroughly sophisticated air; 'the tunnel is built in the rock behind the cataract and the wheels project into the falling stream some, well, perhaps from two to ten feet, but not clear through, so that the—what are they called, flukes or floats? are not visible.'

"'And does the water go right on down the river into Lake Ontario?' asked one of the ladies of the party.

"'Certainly,' replied the encyclopedic tradesman.

"'Oh!' exclaimed the lady in surprise, 'I thought it was all used up to make electricity.'"

Military Advantages.—"The Russian General, Dragomiroff, has expressed his dissent from the views of some English officers who praised the French regiments of the line, but thought less of the cavalry. Fine, big horses, says the general, may be no good at all for cavalry purposes. It is a mistake to require big men and massive horses; both want plenty of food and at regular times. Mettlesome little men and horses are incomparably better for all present-day purposes. Who wants them now to charge squares? They are chiefly good as advanced guards and scouts in a strange country. The Cossack horse, which is not much bigger than a pony, is worth a dozen less-spirited big cavalry horses such as the English admire. The general has also this to say about balloons. They are very little good, in his opinion, unless to the enemy. A balloon is a traitor in the sense that it reveals the whereabouts of an army, which might without it remain concealed. Those in it get a deceptive notion of the surface of the country, which looks, unless where there are high hills, quite flat. A church tower or a tall tree on an eminence is a better point of observation. The general declares the enduring little French linesman, who marches fourteen hours at a stretch, to be 'the most delightful being that ever was.'—*The Argonaut.*

BUSINESS SITUATION.

The General State of Trade.

The volume of general trade shows a falling-off compared with the preceding week, largely owing to the intervention of the Thanksgiving holiday, but in part to the continued effect of mild weather East and South, storms in the Central West, and the usual disinclination of buyers to add to stocks during the closing month of the year.

Navigation has practically closed on the great lakes, the canals, and at Montreal. Western jobbers report activity noticeable in clothing, woolen goods, rubbers, shoes, and holiday specialties, with some increased demand for coal and light hardware.

General trade remains unchanged at the South, with mercantile collections in some instances improving, the tendency of cotton to move slowly, and the movement of merchandise smaller than in October. Texas merchants report a fair movement of notions and fancy goods, but a check to distribution of groceries and dry-goods.

On the Pacific coast a smaller volume of business is reported from San Francisco, with shipments East of wheat, which strengthen the local grain-market. Considerable merchandise continues to go to Alaska from Seattle, and at Portland complaints are made that the passenger rate-war between that city and San Francisco threatens to hurt local trade.

There are 288 business failures reported throughout the United States this week, a noticeable falling-off from the total one week before, 323, and even when compared with the total one year ago, 307. In the last week in November, 1893, there were 298 failures, and in the corresponding week of 1892 the total was 268.

The most striking industrial feature is the continued reaction in the prices of iron and steel, Bessemer pig being off 25c. and steel billets fractionally lower, with reaction in prices for wire, sheets, and other forms. There is little likelihood of an increased demand or a reversal of the price movement prior to the middle of January. There is an improved demand for boots and shoes at Baltimore, Chicago, and St. Louis, as well as at some New England manufacturing centers, while at Philadelphia the demand is not so conspicuous as previously. The restriction of production by several tanneries tends to weaken the price of hides.

Dry-goods are quieter with the continued unseasonably mild weather and the revival of the

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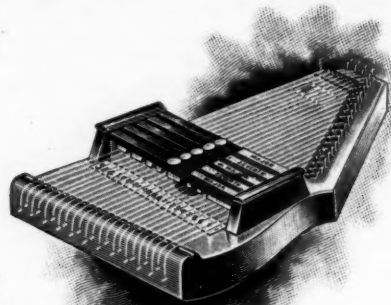
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holiday trade. The strength of cotton maintains the price of cotton goods. Higher prices for wool at London tend to revive interest here, and agents for dress woollens report new orders for spring delivery. Some New England woolen mills have contracted for about all they care to sell at present.

Bank clearings throughout the United States amounted to \$870,000,000 this week, and reflect rather more than the customary falling-off incidental to Thanksgiving week, the decrease as compared with the preceding week amounting to 23 per cent. When compared with the total for the week one year ago the gain is only 8 per cent., and as compared with the week in 1893 the increase is only 10 per cent. At or about the close of 1892 there were reported some exceptionally large aggregates of bank clearings, so when we compare this week's total with that in the week three years ago the decrease is found to be 37 per cent. A comparison with the corresponding week in 1891 indicates a decrease this week of 13 per cent.—*Bradstreet's*, November 30.

Manufactured Goods, etc.

The proximity of the end of the year accounts in part for the inactivity of buyers of manufactured goods last week, but other circumstances contributed to the same end. Business was delayed in the Central West by a storm of unusual severity, and the continuance of mild weather naturally depresses the demand for seasonable dry-goods. The bank clearings computed by *The Financial and Commercial Chronicle* show gain of 7 per cent. over last year and a loss of 12 per cent. compared with the preceding week. As last week contained one holiday, the comparison indicates a very small relative increase for the week, but the comparison with a year ago shows a very much smaller increase than the weeks early in the fall showed.—*The Journal of Commerce*, November 30.

The wholesale trade in textile fabrics has been generally quiet, with the holiday business hardly up to expectations. The opening prices for spring cotton goods are all above those of last season.

New Cure for Kidneys and Bladder.

We are glad to announce to sufferers from kidney and bladder diseases, pain in back, and rheumatism that the new botanic discovery Alkavis is pronounced a positive cure for these maladies. Many of its cures are certainly wonderful, and we ask readers to send name and address to the Church Kidney Cure Company, 418 Fourth Avenue, New York, and we will send you treatment free by mail post-paid. It costs you nothing.

The sales of wool for the week at the three Eastern centers amounted to 6,200,000 pounds, and there was very little change in values. The market hinges somewhat upon the London wool sales, which, according to yesterday's cables, showed a firm tendency for fine merinos, while the lower grades were slightly weaker. Boot and shoe manufacturers have reduced prices owing to a decline in hides and the weakness in leather. The shipments from the East for November were over 20 per cent. less than last year, altho for ten months the movement shows a slight gain.—*The Mail and Express*, November 30.

Stocks, Iron, and Steel, etc.

Business on the Stock Exchange was very quiet. There was little business and little change in prices. Europe was quieter last week and Congress was nearer, and there is a disposition to see what will be done about the national finances. The export of gold during the week was nearly three million dollars, but it did not materially affect the market except to keep things much as they were. Altho cotton is coming forward slowly and the exportation of wheat continues light, the impression prevails that the export of gold is nearly at its end for the present.

Trading in cotton was a good deal excited during the week, an advance in the middle of the week



FREE

The late Prof. Basil Manley of the South Bap. Theo. Seminary, Louisville, Ky., says of the Aerial Medication: "I can cordially recommend its use." Write for a facsimile of his letter. Rev. W. E. Penn, the noted evangelist of Eureka Springs, Ark., says: "I was cured of Catarrhal Deafness in 1886 by the use of the Aerial Medication, and it has proved to be a permanent cure. I recommend this treatment wherever I go, and know of many cases of Catarrh and Lung trouble that have been cured by its use."

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being followed by a decline, but for the whole week the change was slight. The wheat market was firmer and there was a little gain in price, and there was some decline in corn, the export of which, however, is improving. Lard and other hog products were weak, with a tendency to decline.

The iron and steel market is more depressed than it was a week ago. There is light demand for manufactured products. Prices are going down. Bessemer pig has been as low as \$12 in some cases at Valley furnaces, but \$13 is the lowest quotation for next spring. The sales of steel billets have been light, as prices have not yet declined as much as buyers demand. The furnace men believe that the condition of the market is in great measure artificial and that the controlling conditions are in their favor, but it is admitted that consumption has fallen off and the trade is prepared to learn when the reports are all in that stocks increased in November.

On the woolen side of the dry-goods market the demand and prices are irregular. In overcoatings some prices are lower and some higher than last season, with no change in the greater part. Domestic clay worsteds keep their advance, but buyers are disposed to await results. The increased prices at the London wool sales have done something to strengthen the market here. In cotton goods there is very little change, with more desire to sell in spite of higher raw material.

In wholesale groceries very moderate business has been doing, but prices were generally sustained, and occasionally there were signs of increased activity. One of the features of the market was the considerable demand for cocoa. Rice has been going very slowly, but the indications now are for a better demand. Molasses, also, has been in light and irregular demand. Sugar, coffee, and tea have all been inactive, and Brazil coffee, has declined.

Railroad earnings continue to show a marked improvement over last year, but they are still much short of high-water mark. *The Financial and Commercial Chronicle* shows that for the second week of November 82 roads made a net gain of 5.81 per cent. For the third week 56 roads made a net gain over the corresponding week of last year of 6.64 per cent.—*The Journal of Commerce, New York.*

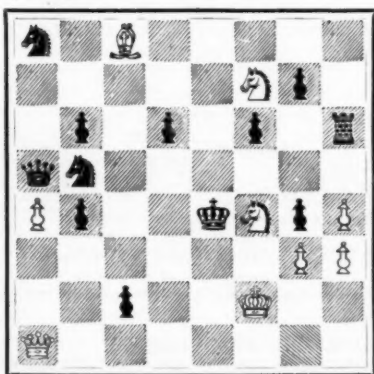
CHESS.

Problem 102.

FIRST PRIZE, THIRD BOHEMIAN TOURNEY.

Black—Twelve Pieces.

K on K 5; Q on Q R 4; Kts on Q Kt 4 and Q R sq; R on K R 3; Ps on K B 3, K Kt 2 and 5, Q 3, Q B 7, Q Kt 3 and 5.



White—Nine Pieces.

K on KB 2; Q on QR sq; B on QB 8; Kts on KB 4 and 7; Ps on K Kt 3, K R 3 and 4, Q R 4.

White mates in three moves.

Good News—Wonderful Cures of Catarrh and Consumption.

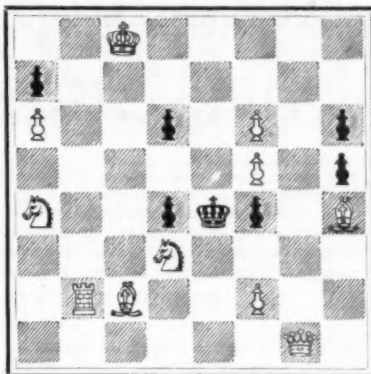
Our readers who suffer from Lung Diseases, Catarrh, Bronchitis, and Consumption will be glad to hear of the wonderful cures made by the new treatment known in Europe as the Andral-Broca Discovery. Write to the New Medical Advance, 67 East 6th Street, Cincinnati Ohio, and they will send you this new treatment free for trial. State age and all particulars of your disease.

Problem 103.

(From *British Chess Magazine.*)

Black—Seven Pieces.

K on K 5; Ps on K B 5, K R 3 and 4, Q 3 and 5, Q R 2.



White—Eleven Pieces.

K on Q B 8; Q on K Kt sq; Bs on K R 4 and Q B 2; Kts on Q 3 and Q R 4; R on Q Kt 2; Ps on K B 2, 5, and 6, Q R 6.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 97 (November 16).

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Q-Q Kt 7 | 2. Kt-Q 2 | 3. B-B 6, mate |
| 1. K-Q 5 | 2. K-K 4 | 3. B-K 3, mate |
| or | 2. P-K 4 | 3. Kt-Q 2, mate |
| 1. | 2. B-B 6, ch | 3. Kt-Q 2, mate |
| 1. K-K 4 | 2. K-K 5, must | 3. Kt-Q 2, mate |
| 1. | 2. Kt (Q 5)-K 3 dis. ch | 3. Kt-Q 2, mate |
| 1. K-B 6 | 2. P-Q 4, must | 3. Q-K Kt 7, mate. |
| 1. | 2. Kt-Q 2, ch | 3. Q-K Kt 7, mate. |
| 1. P x Kt | 2. K-K 4 or Q 5 | |

Correct solution received from M. W. H., University of Virginia; Chas. W. Cooper, Allegheny,

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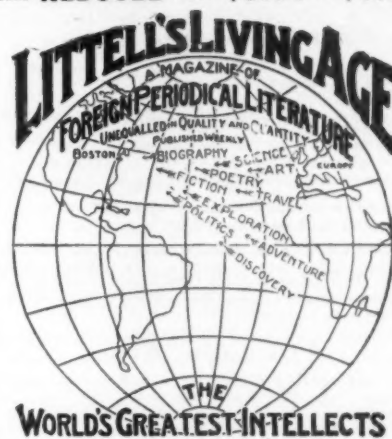
A veritable BARTLETT's of funny sayings.—*Boston Times.*

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Practical Christian Sociology.

A Special Series of Lectures before Princeton Theological Seminary, in February, 1895, by Rev. Wilbur F. Crafts, Ph.D. Illustrated with Charts, and 22 Portraits; Introduction by Joseph Cook. 12mo, cloth, 524 pp., \$1.50. Post-free.

In this work, Practical Christian Sociology is considered from the standpoints of the Church, the Family and Education, Capital and Labor, and Citizenship. In an appendix is given the following supplementary matter: "Biblical Index and Hints on Bible Sociology," "Chronological Data of Progress," "Notes of Purity in Life and in Art," etc. Letters from the faculty of Princeton College, expressing unqualified approval of Mr. Crafts' series of lectures, are given in the book.

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P.; Dr. Dalton, Brooklyn; F. H. Johnston, Elizabeth City, N. C.; C. F. Putney, Independence, Ia.; the Revs. J. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa., and Gilbert Dobbs, Brownsville, Tenn.

M. W. H. writes: "This is one of the finest you have published."

We are very sorry that the little beauty by Lloyd (No. 99) should have been spoiled in the setting. 'Twas only the transposition of two figures, and yet this little thing made the problem impossible. Read: (Black) Bs on K Kt 7 and Q R 2.

Very few persons sent correct solution of 97 (Nov. 16); fewer still have found 98.

Every one of our solvers should have a try at 100 and 101. They are specially instructive compositions. The Minneapolis Journal offered a prize for the first person solving 100. Only two got it. Can't our solvers beat this?

A Gem of an "Evans."

In last week's LITERARY DIGEST we gave an "Evans" in which Mr. Kemeny beat Mr. Pillsbury. The critics without exception condemn the antiquated defense (5) B-Q 3, adopted by Mr. Pillsbury and successfully used by him against Schiffers and Birch in the Hastings tourney. The following game, sent to the St. Paul Dispatch by Dr. S. Gold, was played in Budapest Chess-Club. M. Moroczi won first prize in the minor tourney at Hastings. It will be seen that he played (5) B-R 4, but he made a weak move (7) Q-P x P, losing time, which in the early stage of the Evans is equivalent to losing the game. He should have played P-Q 3.

CHAROUSEK. White.	MAROCZI. Black.	CHAROUSEK. White.	MAROCZI. Black.
1 P-K 4	P-K 4	10 Kt x Q B P K Kt-K 2	
2 Kt-K B 3	Kt-Q B 3	11 B-Q R 3! Q R-Q Ktsq	
3 B-Q B 4	B-Q B 4	12 Kt-Q 5 Kt x Kt	
4 P-Q Kt 4	B x P	13 B x Kt P-Q Kt 4	
5 P-Q B 3	B-R 4	14 P-K 6!! B P x K P	
6 P-Q 4	K P x P	15 B x Kt P x B	
7 Castles	Q P x P	16 Kt-K 5 Q-K 5	
8 Q-Kt 3	Q-K B 3	17 Q-K Kt 3 Resigns.	
9 P-K 5	Q-Kt 3		

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From the Hastings Tourney.

THE LONGEST GAME.

BLACKBURN. White.	ALBIN. Black.	BLACKBURN. White.	ALBIN. Black.
1 P-K 4	P-K 4	58 R-Kt 2	Q-B sq
2 B-K 2	B-B 4	59 R (Kt 2)	Q-B 2
3 Kt-K B 3	P-Q 3		
4 Castles	Q Kt-B 3	60 Q-Kt 2	Q-Q 3
5 P-B 3	B-Kt 3	61 R-Kt 3	R-Q B sq
6 P-Q 4	Q-K 2	62 R-R 4	R (B)-QR sq
7 Kt-R 3	Kt-B 3	63 K-Q 2	R-K sq
8 P-Q 5	Kt-Q sq	64 R-R sq	R (K)-QR sq
9 Q-B 2	P-K R 3	65 K-K 2	R-Q B sq
10 Kt-B 4	Kt-R 2	66 R-R 4	R (B)-Q R sq
11 P-Q R 4	P-Q B 3	67 K-Q sq	R-Q B sq
12 Kt x B	P x Kt	68 K-B sq	R (B)-Q R sq
13 B-K 3	P-Q B 4	69 K-Kt sq	R-Q B sq
14 Kt-Q 2	P-K Kt 4	70 K-B 2	R (B)-QR sq
15 Kt-B 4	Q-B 2	71 R (Kt 3)	R-Q B sq
16 P-Q Kt 4	Q R-Kt sq		
17 K R-Q Kt	Kt-B 3	72 Q-Kt 5	K-Kt 3
18 P-R 5	P-Q Kt 4	73 R-Kt 3	K-R 4
19 Kt-R 3	B-Q 2	74 R-R sq	K-Kt 3
20 Kt x P	B x Kt	75 R (R)-Kt	K-R 4
21 B x B ch	K-B sq	76 Q-R 4	R (B)-B 2
22 P x P	P x P	77 R (Kt 1)	R-B sq
23 B-K 2	R-R sq		
24 P-Kt 5	P-Kt 3	78 Q-R sq	R (B)-Q R sq
25 P-R 6	Kt-Q 2	79 R-R 2	R-Q Kt sq
26 Q-Kt 2	P-K B 4	80 Q-Kt 2	K-Kt 3
27 P-K B 3	P-K B 5	81 R-R sq	K-R 4
28 B-B 2	Kt-B 2	82 R-Q Kt	R (Kt)-QR sq
29 R-Kt 3	Kt-Q 3	83 R x P	Kt x R
30 R (Kt 3)-R 3	Q R-R 2	84 Q x Kt	R x P
31 B-Kt 5	Kt x B	85 Q x Q	R x Q
32 Q x Kt	K-K 2	86 R-Kt 5	R-R 7 ch
33 Q-B 6	Q-Q 3	87 B-Kt 2	R (Q 3)-R 3
34 R-Kt 3	R-B 2	88 K-Kt 3	R (R 7)-R 4
35 Q-Kt 5	Q R-R 2	89 B x P	R-R 6 ch
36 K-B sq	P-K R 4	90 K-B 2	R-K 6
37 K-K 2	P-K R 5	91 K-Q 2	R-R 5
38 P-K R 3	R-Q B sq	92 R-Kt 6	R-R 7 ch
39 R-Kt 2	K-B 2	93 B-Kt 2	R (K 6)-R 6
40 K-Q 3	K-Kt 3	94 K-B 2	R-R 3
41 K-Q B 4	K-R 4	95 R-Kt 5	R (R 7)-R 4
42 B-K sq	R (B)-B 2	96 R-Kt 8	R-R sq
43 R (R)-Kt	R-B sq	97 R-Kt 3	R (R 4)-R 3
44 B-B 2	R (B)-B 2	98 P-K 5	K-Kt 3
45 K-Q 3	Q-Kt 3	99 R-Kt 5	R-Q B sq
46 K-Q B 2	Q-Q 3	100 R-Kt 7	R (B)-Q R
47 Q-K 2	K-R 3	101 P-K 6	R-K sq
48 K-B sq	R-B sq	102 R-Kt 5	R-Q B sq
49 Q-Kt 5	K-R 4	103 K-Kt 3	K-B 4
50 P-B 4	R (B)-B 2	104 B-R 3	R (B)-QR sq
51 B-K sq	R-R sq	105 B-Kt 2	R-R 4
52 B-B 3	R (R)-R 2	106 R-Kt 6	R (R 4)-R 3
53 R-Kt 3	R-B sq	107 R x R	R x R
54 Q-R 4	R (B)-B 2	108 B-R 3	R-R 4
55 Q-R sq	R-B sq	109 P-K 7	R-R sq
56 K-B 2	R (B)-QR sq	110 B x P and wins.	
57 R-R 3	Q-B 2		

ONE OF PILLSBURY'S BEST.

(Notes by Reichelm of *The Philadelphia Times*).
"How Pillsbury gave Mieses a lesson in the Hastings tourney:

MIESES. White.	PILLSBURY. Black.
1 P-K 4	P-K 4
2 Q Kt-B 3	K Kt-B 3
3 B-B 4	B-Kt 5
4 P-K B 4	P-Q 3

"This makes it a sort of left-handed King's gambit evaded.

5 Kt-B 3

6 Kt-Q 5

Castles

"He should rather castle.

7 B x Kt

8 P-B 3

9 P-B 5

6 Kt x Kt

Kt-B 3

B-Q B 4

"White's remissness on move 6 has lost time and he now goes over to an untenable attack.

10 B-Kt 3

9 Kt-K 2

P-Q 4

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11 P-Q 4	P x Q P
12 P-B 6	Kt P x P
13 Kt x P	P x P
14 B-R 6	Kt-Kt 3

"The high style, rightly ignoring the Bishop threat.

15 B x R	Q x B
16 R-K B sq	Q-R 3
17 Q-K 2	B x Kt
18 P x B	P-K B 4
19 P-Kt 4	Kt-B 5
20 Q-B 4	Kt-Q 6 ch
21 K-K 2	Q x P ch
22 K-K 3	P-B 5 ch

"And Mieses resigns."

Resignation.

(After Longfellow.)

There is no move, however well intended,
But has some deadly snare;
There is no gambit, howsoever defended,
Without its load of care.

About the board vexatious checks are flying;
My Pawns oppose in vain;
My Knights and Bishops, for their monarch dying,
Brief respite can obtain.

Let us be patient. These enforced positions
From play unsound arise,
But might (with slightly different conditions)
Turn out quite otherwise.

I see but dimly how those combinations
On the King's side will work;
I must risk something in the variations
Tho perils round me lurk.

I really wonder at the way I'm playing,
Such wiles to overlook;
The enemy, a trap insidious laying,
Has bagged my gallant Rook.

Still, there's no mate. What seems so is delusion.
Onward I push my Pawn;
And as my Queen has checks in great profusion,
The game may yet be drawn.

Another check (not mine). I go lamenting.
His Knight skips in between,
A horrid fork! O fortune unrelenting!
There goes my precious Queen.

Not in this game shall I again possess her,
For tho, with rapture keen,
I crown yon Pawn, my last and only treasure,
I will not have a Queen.

But with a Pawn—(of species known as dummy)—
I may yet smile at fate.
Your force, I grant, may crush me to a mummy,
But also may—stalemate.

Vain hope. Your Queen a step advances,
And leaves me one square still.
I can go there, but in the circumstances,
I hardly think I will.

No, I'll resign, and give you no more trouble,
And thank you all the same.
I see you have a mate. That check is double,
Let's have another game.

—Baltimore News.

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Chess-Nuts.

London is by far the greatest city and Chess-center in the world. It has upwards of 200 Chess-Clubs.

At the Hastings Tourney, the Queen's Pawn Opening was played sixty-five times, with a percentage of wins for White of 53.84. Of this opening Mr. Emil Kemeny says:

"The Queen's Pawn's opening is probably more frequently adopted in tournament and match-playing than any other opening. It is the general opinion that this is a rather conservative opening, for it seldom leads to a brilliant attacking play in the early part of the game. This may be true, but it should be admitted that the game, especially the developing moves, requires position-judgment, even in a higher degree, than any so-called open games, and, as a rule, the slightest mistake in the early part of the game proves more disastrous than in any other game."

The match for the championship of America and \$750 a side, between S. Lipschutz, of New York city, and Jackson W. Showalter, of Kentucky, has been in progress for several weeks. At the time of this writing the score stands, Lipschutz 3, Schowalter 4, draws 2.

In the former match, played in 1892, Mr. Lipschutz was the victor, with a score of 7 wins, 1 loss, and 7 draws.

A grand display of Chess with living pieces was made recently at Prague. The field of battle was a large square 200 metres in length and breadth. The pieces represented two armies of no less than 256 persons, with horses and chariots. The game, composed by the celebrated problemist, M. Dubrosky, was a mimic reproduction of the defeat of the Hungarian King Corvinus by the Bohemian King Podjebrad. The Hungarian King surrendered his sword after the thirty-second move.

Mr. H. E. Bird, of London, has just published a book with the title "Chess Novelties." Mr. Bird is one of the few remaining representatives of the old school. He believes in brilliancy of play, and, probably, would rather lose a game full of imagination than to win one safe but dull. His book receives high praise from Chess authorities who have examined it.

Current Events.

Monday, November 25.

The correspondence of the British Ambassador Pauncefoot relative to Bering Sea damage claims is made public; Senator Morgan is severely criticized. . . . New York Day is cele-

A New Cure for Asthma.

Medical science at last reports a positive cure for Asthma in the Kola Plant found on the Kongo River, West Africa. So great is their faith in its wonderful curative powers, the Kola Importing Co., 1164 Broadway, New York, are sending our large trial cases of the Kola Compound free to all sufferers from Asthma. Send your name and address on postal card, and we will send you a trial case by mail free.

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brated at the Atlanta Exposition. . . . The New York building strike threatens to spread. . . . Russia orders armor plate from the Bethlehem Iron Company.

Minister Terrell reports from Constantinople that the outlook in Armenia is improving; the Governor of Hadjsin is recalled by the Sultan. . . . The houses of many Socialist leaders are searched by the police in Berlin, and documents

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are seized. . . . A conference on the copyright question is begun at Ottawa. . . . Gomez and Maceo are said to have defeated Gen. Valdez in a hard fight.

Tuesday, November 26.

A mass-meeting is held in New York in favor of the recognition of Cuban belligerency; Chas. A. Dana presides. . . . Senator Morgan makes a sharp reply to the statements of the British Ambassador respecting Bering Sea claims. . . . A movement for excise reform is under way in New York. . . . \$1,130,000 in gold is withdrawn for export.

The powers decide to send more ships through the Dardanelles; the reports from Turkey continue to be favorable. . . . Extensive French missions in Lüh-Sung, China, are destroyed by natives.

Wednesday, November 27.

The Spanish Minister causes the detention of the steamship *Horsa* by the Collector of Philadelphia on suspicion of violating the neutrality laws. . . . Secretary Smith, in his annual report, advances a plan to rebond the Pacific road on a 3 per cent. basis. . . . A storm causes silver losses in the oil regions of Ohio and Indiana.

The Sultan hesitates to grant permission to the powers to send additional ships through the Dardanelles, and they may act without his consent. . . . A motion to impeach the late French Ministry for concealing the truth regarding Madagascar is defeated in the Chamber. . . . Alexandre Dumas dies.

Thursday, November 28.

Thanksgiving Day is observed throughout the country. . . . The officers of the *Horsa* are arrested as filibusters in Philadelphia. . . . The gold-mining speculation in Colorado is growing in excitement. . . . Pennsylvania defeats Cornell in football, 46 to 2. . . . E. C. Benedict, Mr. Cleveland's close friend, states that the President would decline a third-term nomination.

A second terrible massacre is reported from Marash; thousands are killed; American mission-school pillaged and burned. . . . The Pope has recovered from his illness.

Friday, November 29.

Secretary Lamont, in his annual report, advocates an increase in the army and liberal appropriations for sea-coast defenses. . . . Mr. Reed is said to be making House committees with a view to strict economies in expenditures. . . . There is much excitement in Utah over recent discoveries of rich gold-fields. . . . A dozen miners are killed and as many are wounded in a disaster in the iron mines at Carmel, N. Y. . . . Attorney-General Hancock, of New York, takes action to bar the Chicago Gas Trust from selling certificates in this State.

The Sultan is said to have threatened the powers that he will disavow all responsibility for the safety of foreigners should a naval demonstration be made before Constantinople. . . . Count Taffe, formerly Prime Minister of Austria, dies. . . . The Berlin headquarters of the Socialist election unions are closed by the police. . . . Satolli, the Papal Delegate, is made a cardinal.

Saturday, November 30.

Democratic and Republican Representatives hold caucuses in Washington; ex-Speaker Reed is nominated for Speaker by acclamation. . . . Murderer Holmes is sentenced to death in Philadelphia; an appeal is to be taken. . . . The Navy Department opens bids for the construction of new battle-ships.

There is no change in the Constantinople situation; the additional guardships have not yet entered the Bosphorus. . . . Lord Salisbury sends his reply to Secretary Olney's Venezuelan vote, by mail, to the British Ambassador at Washington.

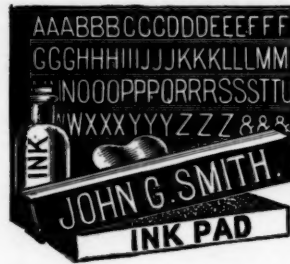
Sunday, December 1.

Mr. Reed's conservative program, as outlined in his caucus remarks, causes considerable comment in Washington and elsewhere. . . . Secretary Herbert recommends appropriations for two new battle-ships and twelve torpedo-boats. . . . Controller Eckels recommends the retirement of the greenbacks.

It is reported that the Turks fired on a British vessel; the Sultan refuses to let an American admiral go to Constantinople in a war-ship to call on him. . . . In petitions to the Armenian Patriarch terrible sufferings of the Christians are described. . . . Gomez is said to have suffered a disastrous defeat in an engagement with Spanish troops.

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